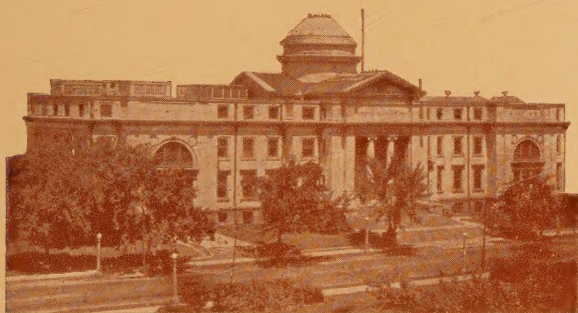


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Annals Contents . . .

October, 1953

Frantic Farmers Fight Law	
By FRANK D. DILEVA.....	81-109
William H. Berry—1849-1923	
By FRANCIS I. MOATS.....	110-126
"The General Welfare"	
By W. HAROLD BRENTON.....	127-140
My First Christmas in Iowa	
By ISAAC BRANDT.....	141-145
Iowans in Portraiture.....	145
Log Cabin Remnant of Iowa History	
By DWIGHT B. HICKS.....	146-148
Iowa People and Events	
By ANNALS EDITOR	
Grant Sought Iowa's Wilson.....	149-151
Joined in Abuse of Lincoln.....	151-152
Less Hired Help on Iowa Farms.....	152-153
Iowa Capitol's Architecture.....	153-154
Iowa's Notable Dead.....	155-160
ILLUSTRATION:	Facing
Iowa National Guard Troops at Tipton.....	Page 81

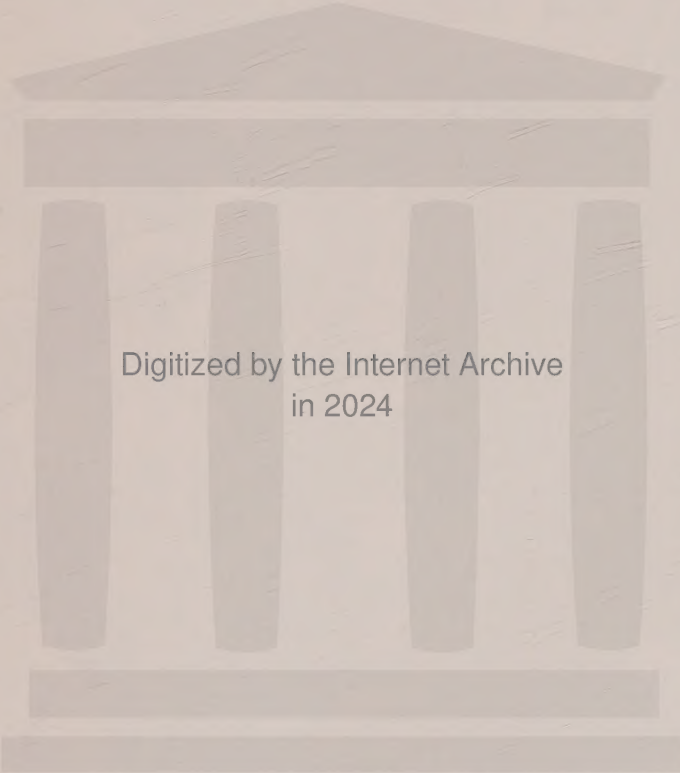
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IOWA NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS AT TIPTON TO PRESERVE ORDER

Annals of Iowa

ESTABLISHED 1863

VOL. XXXII, No. 2

DES MOINES, OCTOBER, 1953

THIRD SERIES

Frantic Farmers Fight Law

DEPRESSION PRICES INCITED IOWA FARM INSURGENCE

By FRANK D. DILEVA¹

In the years immediately following the financial crash of 1929, there came a series of disturbances in Iowa in which farmers were the aggressive participants. These disturbances appeared in three distinct phases: opposition to the tuberculin test law, known as the "Cow War," the Sioux City "Milk Strike," and the "Farm Holiday."

The first of these disorders, which usually was designated as the "Cow War," took place in Cedar county, in eastern Iowa and had its main focal point in the locale of Tipton.² Designed as a protest against enforced testing of cattle for bovine tuberculosis, it reflected the attitude of many farmers in the year 1931. The presence of bovine tuberculosis was widespread in the state and every conceivable effort was made to stamp it out, but a combination of events led the Iowa farmer to believe that enforcement of the test required by law

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² *The Tipton Advertiser*, March 12, 1931.

cheated him of a just return from his cattle; therefore, in his mind the protest was justified.

The Sioux City "Milk Strike," which was organized and directed by the Sioux City Milk Producers Association was of shorter duration and involved fewer persons than the "Cow War." It also served, however, to reveal and to publicize the farmers' economic situation.³

Running contemporaneously with the "Milk Strike" and at times joining with it was the "Farm Holiday." The longest and most violent of the disturbances, it involved more persons and issues than had either of the preceding revolts. The "Farm Holiday" had its beginnings in the summer of 1932 and did not end until late in 1933.

In their attempts to block the duly constituted agencies of law and order, the farmers appeared to be acting out of character as stable, conservative, law abiding citizens. To the contemporary observer, these disturbances may have seemed to be extremely violent, radical and directed against the basic institutions of our country. Yet, even a hasty examination of the history of the United States reveals precedents of far more extensive unrest, a greater degree of violence and a more direct challenge to established authority which offer no evidence of left wing tendencies.

FINANCIAL LOSSES EMBITTERED DEBTORS

During colonial times, when the American farmer was ruled to a large extent by an absentee government, it was not surprising that he resisted the imposition of outside authority, but even after he became free from England's authority, instances of vigorous dissent from the decrees of his own government are to be found. Shays' Rebellion was one such incident. Led by Daniel Shays, a former officer of the Revolutionary army, a group of Massachusetts farmers attempted by direct action to prevent foreclosure of homestead loans and collection of debts. Courts were prevented from sitting; buildings were burned and the estates of those

³ See outline of causes of the "Cow War" for a more complete discussion of the economic condition of the farmer at this time.

with less or no indebtedness plundered. Riots spread to Concord and Worcester, and troops at the Federal arsenal at Springfield repulsed the insurgents with grapeshot in the autumn of 1786.

The United States of America had just newly embarked upon its national career, and immediately it found itself faced with a group of citizenry who felt aggrieved and were willing to take the law into their own hands to show their feelings. The farmers and their pitchforks, however, were no match for the musket and grapeshot of the army. After the defeat of Shays and his followers by the militia, the legislature considered the justice of the grievances which caused the action and took steps to rectify the basic cause of the situation.⁴

Five years after the rebellion of Daniel Shays, the United States was faced with another farm crisis. Though whimsically called the "Whiskey Rebellion," the action was another protest by a farm group against what it felt was a tyrannical procedure. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of Treasury of the new nation, had attempted to enhance the financial position of the Federal government by persuading congress to pass a law placing an excise tax on whiskey.

This constituted a serious affront in the eyes of the western farmers, for "liquid lightning" had been their only feasible means of transporting surplus corn to market. Indeed, a gallon of whiskey had come to have a standard rate of exchange and in some areas served in lieu of money. It was soon evident that the western farmer regarded Hamilton's tax to be unjust and in defiance of it rebelled. The government of the country felt compelled to suppress the rebellion and again the militia marched. This time the area was western Pennsylvania and though the uprising had earlier seen public whippings, masked night riders and

⁴ Joseph Schafer, *The Social History of American Agriculture* (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1936), pp. 224ff. This book gives a more complete discussion of the problems surrounding Shays' Rebellion and the economic situation at the time.

other methods of terrorism, the militia found men with plows and hoes instead of whiskey rebels.

Continued expansion of settlements into the Mississippi valley probably relieved some of the tensions that otherwise might have broken out in protest against similar injustices.

Much later, in 1892, the farmer was again in revolt, but this time he used political organization on a large scale in seeking to achieve that which violence had failed to do.

FARMERS ORGANIZED POLITICAL GROUPS

The deflation of the late 1880's found the farmer suffering the effects of mortgage indebtedness, falling prices, and overproduction. The stage was set for some form of farm revolt and with amazing promptness a new political party came into being. This party, made up of the Farmers' Alliance, Greenbackers, Knights of Labor, Free Silverites, and followers of various economic theories, presented a dynamic organization in the face of the lethargic disinterest of the two major parties. Though not officially organized as a party until 1892, the Populists (as they came to be called) elected two senators and numerous congressmen in the 1890 elections. The party stood for free silver, a graduated income tax, postal savings, an eight-hour day, and immigration restrictions. Much of the platform was felt to be communistic, but the ensuing years found many of its items being enacted into law. Once more the farmer was no real radical.⁵

In 1920, the economic imbalance again operated to the disadvantage of the farmer. Nevertheless, this time he did not revolt. The presentation of the McNary-Haugen Bill and the Export Debenture Plan gave him some hope that the government would take steps to relieve the widespread distress from which all agricultural regions in the nation then suffered. In this he was disappointed.

⁵ A discussion of the "Whiskey Rebellion" and the Populist movement may be found in any competent college text dealing with American History.

The severity of the depression following 1929 and its extent exceeded any that the country had previously experienced. The farmer continued to be a major financial sufferer and as his sufferings grew to such proportions that he felt he could no longer bear them, he was tempted to resort to direct action, which, however, appeared only in scattered places. The results and the significance of apparent radicalism as it appeared in Iowa between 1930 and 1933 are important.

THE UNPOPULAR TUBERCULIN TEST

As is true of most historical phenomena, the "Cow War" in Iowa had its roots in conditions developing some years before its actual outbreak in 1931.. While to the country at large the full effects of the 1929 crash did not appear until the middle of 1930, or in some cases even later, to the farm population the depression was a living, crushing thing long before 1929. It affected agriculture shortly after World War I and, though farm commodities had brief periods of higher levels during the twenties, there was nothing like the prosperity which had existed during the war years.

During the years 1926 to 1931, through over extension of credit, one Iowa farmer out of every seven lost his land.⁶ In addition, of the 111,333 farms in Iowa which were being operated by private owners, by 1930, 64,425 were mortgaged.⁷ This meant that 57.9 per cent of the farms in Iowa were mortgaged. In 1925, only 53.7 per cent of the farms had been mortgaged. Each of the farmers in 1930 paid an average of \$1.37 per acre in real estate taxes and carried a debt of \$9,626.⁸ The total mortgage burden was equal to 48.5 per cent of the value of the farms, not excessive or unusual, however.

These were some of the factors facing the farmer as he went into the year 1931. He had mortgaged his land either in its purchase or to buy additional acres.

⁶ George Mills, "Iowa Foreclosures and Farm Violence Hit Peak in '33," *Des Moines Register*, May 12 1946, Sec. 4, p. 4.

⁷ U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Sixteenth Census of the United States 1940. Agriculture*, Vol. I (Washington: Government printing Office, 1942), p. 7.

⁸ *Ibid.*

Whether it was due, as many have said, to the fact that he had over-expanded during the boom years of 1919 and 1820, speculated in land purchases and borrowed far beyond his means of repaying is a moot point.

No doubt this had to do with the farmers' plight, but it was not the entire cause of his economic difficulties. The farmer found himself in the situation of having borrowed cheap money and of becoming confronted with a tremendous debt in a time of scarce money. The reasons for the scarcity of money become obvious with the following statistics.

In 1919, the average value of cattle was \$44.53 per hundredweight and the average value of hogs for that year was \$23.28 per hundredweight. By 1925 the price of cattle had declined to \$22.52 per hundredweight and the average of hogs had dropped to \$13.05. Corn, the largest money crop for the farmer, had suffered the same type of collapse. From a high in 1919 of \$1.513 per bushel it fell to \$0.699 per bushel in 1925, and after a few fluctuations by 1931 the average price for the year had dropped to \$0.318 per bushel, and the market had not yet ceased its decline.^o Faced with this situation, it was a rare person among the farmers who was not convinced that the time for drastic action had arrived. Most of them seeking relief were disgusted with investigations, promises and governmental inaction.

One should not overlook the efforts made to obtain through the Federal government relief for the farmers' plight. Attempts at relief were brought up in congress, but they met a fate in many cases which showed a definite lack of foresight on the part of both legislators and presidents. One of the more important of these bills, known as the McNary-Haugen Bill, was brought before the legislators in Washington every session from 1924 to 1927 and finally after many revisions was passed in 1927 only to be vetoed by President Cool-

^o U. S. Department of Agriculture, *Agricultural Statistics*, Vol. I. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1940.) p. 45, 46, 9, 10, 344, 345. The prices quoted in this discussion are used primarily in relation to farmer reaction, rather than as a statistical study of agricultural prices.

idge.¹⁰ The bill with its "equalization fee" was designed to appeal to the midwestern farmer who was traditionally a supporter of high tariffs. It was this fee, which was to pay for the project, but as has been previously stated, the bill was vetoed, not once, but twice in successive years. Other bills were proposed, investigated, and in most cases defeated during the "Farmers' administration." Those bills which were designed to give the farmer similar benefits as received by industry through the protective tariff seemed doomed to failure.

CROP PRICE DECLINE DEFLATED FARMS

It is evident that the actual reasons for the "Cow War" rested on the general economic conditions of agriculture, although the immediate reasons were attributed to the tuberculin test. This was aptly put by Jay N. Darling: "The real problem was the collapse of farm prices and tumbling land values. Bank failures, mortgage foreclosures and prohibitive taxation added to the misery of being caught between a crash of price and a rise of dollars."¹¹

This combination of circumstances explains the situation that faced numbers of farmers by 1931, and why in March of that year the outbreak of the "Cow War" was precipitated by the enforcement of the unpopular tuberculin test.

This test was designed to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis by the detection of the disease and condemnation of affected cattle. This usually meant a loss to the farmer, since the condemned value of the diseased animal was never its true worth. One could not expect the farmer in the face of a grave economic crisis to be jubilant concerning the condemnation of his cattle for a mere fraction of their former worth, and to the farmer, the tuberculin test seemed to bring about this very thing.

¹⁰ Earle D. Ross, *Iowa Agriculture: An Historical Survey* (Iowa City: the State Historical Society of Iowa, 1951), Chap. 11.

¹¹ Jay N. Darling, "The Farmers' Holiday," *New Outlook*, Vol. CLXI (October, 1932), p. 19.

In the weekly *Tipton Advertiser*, published in the very center of the agitation area, there appeared on March 5, 1931, an article which stated that the Cedar County State Bank of Tipton failed to open its doors. This was the first of many bank failures in Cedar county and heralded an era of bank failures. The effect of such a closing was tremendously important to the farm population, for the bank held notes which automatically became due and, consequently, money became more difficult to obtain. With the banks closed and income threatened by the tuberculin test, the farmers became desperate.

TESTED FOR TB IN CATTLE

The state of Iowa had made provisions for the testing of cattle as early as 1919, when the legislature appropriated \$100,000 to be spent in a coordinate program with the United States Department of Agriculture.¹² By 1925, the test had been made mandatory and its administration proceeded slowly but surely throughout the counties of Iowa.

In the initial stages, after 1919, the work of tuberculosis eradication went rather slowly, since the state required 51 per cent of the owners of breeding and dairy cattle to sign a petition asking the county board of supervisors to make application for the enrollment of the county in the program.¹³ The supervisors were then authorized to levy an assessment of three mills to cover the expenses and indemnities.¹⁴ Earlier under voluntary program set up in 1923, twenty-five counties had signed up for the test.

A county or district was considered accredited by law under one of two types of action: (a) a modified accredited area was one which had reduced tuberculosis to .005 per cent; (b) an accredited area was one which had 25 per cent of the cattle owners petitioning

¹² Iowa State Department of Agriculture, *Iowa Year Book of Agriculture* 1923, Vol. I (Des Moines State of Iowa 1924) p. ix.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. ix.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. ix

for the test.¹⁵ The one-half of one per cent specified for a modified accredited area was not as great a reduction as the figures seem to indicate, for bovine tuberculosis had not reached any truly great proportions.¹⁶

The law for testing was revised and altered, amended and added to, every two years from 1925 to 1931. At this latter date it read:

It shall be the duty of the department of agriculture to eradicate bovine tuberculosis in all the counties of the state in the manner provided by law in this chapter. Said department shall proceed with the examination including the tuberculin test of all such cattle as rapidly as possible.

It shall be the duty of each and every owner of dairy or breeding cattle in the state to conform to and abide by the rules laid down by the state and federal departments of agriculture and follow their instructions designed to suppress the disease, prevent its spread and avoid reinfection of the herd.¹⁷

Upon the surface, this enactment would normally seem to all farmers to be a desirable thing, and to a degree it was. By 1926, twenty-seven counties had become accredited areas and each year saw more added to the total. The testing continued until in 1930 there were a total of fifty-eight counties declared as accredited.¹⁸ The slowness of testing was due to lack of funds and lack of trained personnel for administering the test.

PITCHED BATTLES DEVELOPED

Specific problems faced the Iowa farmer in the early months of 1931. The bovine tuberculosis test was nothing new. It was not something designed to hinder the farmer's way of life, although in a short time he came to feel that it was unfair, corrupt, and designed to rob him of a portion of his livelihood. But prior to 1931, there had been little or no controversy about the matter, although a test case in court resulted in the upholding

¹⁵ Iowa State Department of Agriculture, *Iowa Year Book of Agriculture* 1930, Vol. I (Des Moines State of Iowa 1931) p. 27

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Iowa Revised Code* (1931) ch. 165.2.

¹⁸ Iowa State Department of Agriculture, *op. cit.*, (1930) p. 27.

of the constitutionality of the law by the state supreme court.¹⁹

The procedure carried out in administering the test was generally as follows: a veterinarian hired by the state inoculated a farmer's cattle with a solution containing inert tuberculin bacilli. After a short period he returned to the cattle and tested their reaction to the inoculation. If an animal reacted unfavorably, it was termed a "reactor" and by law condemned to be destroyed.²⁰ The farmer received a certain amount of salvage remuneration, and therein lay the beginnings of the "Cow War," for the salvage return realized on his sale of the condemned animals was not equal to the worth of the cattle nor to the expected return. The following formula was devised by the state for estimating the farmer's total remuneration:

The sale price or salvage goes to the owner. That amount is subtracted from the appraised value. Of the remaining sum the state pays the farmer one-third, the national department of agriculture pays the farmer one-third and the farmer himself must stand for one-third of the loss.²¹

To illustrate, if a farmer had a reactor with an estimated value of \$400, which was condemned and sold to a packer for perhaps a quarter of a cent a pound, the owner would receive about \$22.50. This sum would then be subtracted from the appraised value of the cow, leaving a total of \$377.50. The federal government would then pay one-third of this amount, the state another third, and the farmer would lose a third. The farmer's total return would then equal \$273.66, for an animal appraised at \$400, and probably worth more.

To the farmer, perhaps already in dire economic straits, having no control over the price paid by the packer or the appraised value, this situation seemed designed to cheat him out of his just return. It may

¹⁹ *Fevold vs Board of Supervisors of Webster County*, 202 Iowa 1019 (1926)

²⁰ *Des Moines Register*, September 22, 1931, p. 1.

²¹ *Des Moines Sunday Register*, April 12, 1931, p. 1.

be argued that the farmer received a fair compensation for a "reactor," but to the farmer nothing could be fair about losing approximately \$130 of an animal's worth. In his financial plight the loss of even one dollar would no doubt have been felt and the loss of \$130 on each "reactor" could well have been a major catastrophe. In many instances a single animal may not have been important, but, if multiplied by five or six or twelve, the total sum would assume staggering proportions. Thus, twelve animals would mean a loss of \$1500 or more, based on the above estimate. At any time this would be a substantial loss to a farmer, but in the year 1931, he felt it could well place him in bankruptcy.

It was this situation which caused the actual outbreak of the "Cow War." The anticipated loss, to the "embattled" farmer of Iowa, was the "Shot heard 'round the world."

The reasons for the outbreak coming at any given time are subject to conjecture. It may have been that the farmer in his economic distress could no longer hope. He was involved in a depression, which, publicly recognized since 1929, struck the farmer as early as 1920. By 1931 he may have reached the end of his patience.

Another possible factor was the type of personality that appeared as the active members of the revolt. The leaders had dropped the cloak of conventionality and had become insistent and violent in their demands for a favorable solution. The active leaders were straightforward and uncompromising men and in them the beginnings of the struggle may be found.

BEGINNING OF FARMERS REBELLION

The actual rebellion started on the fifth of March, 1931. At this time it was announced that the cows of William Butterbrodt, who lived six miles northeast of Tipton, would be tested. The group of state agents and veterinarians who were to conduct the test, were met by a group of approximately two hundred farm-

ers.²² who objected to the test but who did not commit any acts of violence. The tuberculin was injected into the cattle and the state men left. The following day a group of farmers met at Tipton to send a petition to Governor Dan Turner and the state legislature asking that the tests be discontinued and the law repealed.²³ Three days later the state veterinarian returned to the Butterbrodt farm to read the results of the tests or to check the reaction.

Upon arrival at the farm the veterinarians found a group of nearly five hundred farmers waiting to prevent them from reading the results of the test.²⁴ After being blocked at the Butterbrodt farm, the state agents and veterinarians proceeded to the farm of E. C. Mitchell, only to be met by another group of irate farmers. It became apparent at this point that a considerable portion of the farmers of Cedar county were firmly opposed to the testing. Estimates of the number of those in open opposition vary widely. Those who supported the state government definitely made the estimate as low as possible. The test objectors for the most part were in the eastern section of Iowa, centering around Tipton.

The tenth of March saw five Cedar county farms picketed by the objectors. A warning system apparently had been arranged for the purpose of summoning farmers in case an attempt was made to carry out the scheduled testing.²⁵ For the next week the testing rested in a state of suspended animation, pending orders from the state testing offices.²⁶ The farmers in the interim were being organized by J. W. Lenker of Wilton Junction, who, as President of the Farmers' Protective Association and a cattle raiser, had a definite stake in the problem. Lenker led his group of one thou-

²² *The Tipton Advertiser*, March 12, 1931.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Davenport Democrat*, March 10, 1931.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, March 17, 1931.

sand to fifteen hundred men to Des Moines on the nineteenth of March.²⁷ There they stormed the State House and demanded that they be heard by the General Assembly in open session. The capitol grounds were jammed to overflowing and the crowd became so unwieldy that all legislative business other than the discussion of the tuberculin test was suspended.²⁸ In response to demands made by the farmers, they were granted a hearing by the legislature.

Lenker explained the actions of the farmers during the hearing. He said:

We are here primarily to demonstrate against compulsory tuberculosis testing and to urge the passage of the house bill making tuberculosis testing optional and making the county the unit of determination whether testing shall be undertaken.²⁹

The bill approved by Lenker, known as the Davis bill, earlier had been introduced by Lawrence Davis, representative from Delaware county. It was designed to repeal the compulsory provisions of the testing law and make it a matter of choice. Not only did the farmers' group discuss the tuberculin test law, but they also included in their grievances such matters as the establishment of a state police system, which they opposed. They condemned compulsory military training at the state university and state college. They also attacked the county assessor bill, a minimum wage law for teachers and tax free securities. The addition of various grievances other than the tuberculin test is a fair indication that the farmers' problems, as he conceived them, involved far more than the tests.³⁰ The temper of the farmers was shown by the placards carried during their visit to the statehouse. Such rhymes as these were numerous:

Fake, Fake, Fake,
Vets condemn our cattle

²⁷ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, March 19, 1931, p. 1.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ *Ibid.*

And to the packers take
Fake, Fake, Fake.³¹

GOV. TURNER UPHELD LAWFUL PROCEDURE

The invasion of the statehouse could not help but come to the attention of the governor, since it was held almost literally upon his front doorstep. Governor Dan Turner spoke to the farmers during the afternoon session of the hearing and his speech was to become a key to all his subsequent dealings with the farm problems. His statement seemed to sum up his complete philosophy concerning the testing and the objectors. Although it allowed for little constructive action, it epitomized the cautious executive going to all lengths to carry out his oath of office.

A test of representative government is involved in this matter, he (Governor Turner) said, and I ask you, as you cherish your own right, that you aid me in carrying out the plain provisions of the law, and I herewith guarantee to you so far as lies within my power your rights shall be maintained, your lives and property protected.³²

So far as J. W. Lenker and the rest of the farmers in the statehouse on that day were concerned, the above statement was merely a mouthing of platitudes. They felt that it gave them no reassurance and left them in the same position they held before their demonstration.

Following the demonstration at the state capitol, the testing went on with a certain degree of smoothness, for non-cooperating farmers had been summarily threatened with a quarantine. To the farmer this was the equivalent of losing a cow, for under the provisions of the quarantine law no meat or milk could be sold from that animal. The statute clearly provided for this contingency: "If he refused to confine the cattle, the department may employ sufficient help to properly confine them and the expense of such help shall be paid by the owner or deducted from the indemnity if any is paid."³³

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² *Ibid.*

³³ *Des Moines Sunday Register*, April 12, 1931, p. 1.

The lack of any voiced resentment against the testing in the three weeks following the visit to the state-house prompted state authorities to issue a statement that the objections had died away. This mistaken conclusion was based on the belief that since E. C. Mitchell, one of the leaders of the opposition, had allowed his cattle to be injected, the testing of his cattle would go to completion. However, the test readings were the crucial phase of the entire process, and Mr. Mitchell soon proved to be very uncooperative at the time of the attempted readings.

The official statement concerning the withdrawal of opposition to the test must necessarily have been made the day before its appearance in the evening papers, for on the day of its publication, April 10, the call had been sent over the rural party line for all objecting farmers in the Tipton area to assemble at the Mitchell farm to prevent the test readings.³⁴ A group of newspaper men who [had managed to learn of the situation] arrived at the farm in search of firsthand news and were forcibly ejected. At the entrance to the property were seventy-five farmers who refused admittance to any person not personally known to them.³⁵ The arrival of Dr. Malcolm, chief of the division of Animal Industry of the State Department of Agriculture, did little to soothe irritated tempers. His appearance signalled an attempted stampede of the Mitchell herd; when this failed, he was asked by Mitchell to leave the property. Two men in the group asked Mitchell's permission to throw Dr. Malcolm from the property and, after receiving an affirmative reply, proceeded to aid the doctor in making an unceremonious exit.³⁶

The reaction to this incident was soon evident. Norman Baker, proprietor of Station KTNT and a staunch supporter of the resistance group stated: "The farmers are only asking for their rights."³⁷ Sheriff Foster Max-

³⁴ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, April 11, 1931, p. 1.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ *Des Moines Register*, April 11, 1931, p. 1.

³⁷ *Des Moines Sunday Register*, April 12, 1931.

son of Cedar county stated that the situation was out of control. In talking to Governor Turner he made a formal request for troops.³⁸

Accordingly, the state's National Guard was ordered by the governor to stand by, and two companies were alerted at 1:30 a.m. the morning of April 13.³⁹

MILO RENO ENTERS SCENE

Into this explosive situation, seemingly made to order for him, stepped the dynamic personality of Milo Reno. Reno was an ordained minister,⁴⁰ but he did not have charge of a church. He had been a farmer in his early youth,⁴¹ but no longer did he farm. His talent seemed to lie in the field of farm problems. As president and controlling factor in the Farmers' Union from 1921 until his death, ⁴² his activities concerning farmers and their problems were varied and numerous. As a private citizen interested in the struggle of the farmers engaged in the tuberculin disorders, he elected himself as a personal intermediary between the farm group and the governor.

Reno had not been asked to accept such a position, but he talked to the governor and proceeded to talk to the representatives of the farmers to see if an effective settlement could be reached. His motive in the situation remains unclear, for it is difficult to determine whether he was simply attempting to further his own political ends, thus supporting his own ego, or acting as a man who felt that his experience and background made him the answer to the farmers' prayers. Regardless of his reasons, he did enter into the "Cow War," though his entry did little to effect a real peace.

The first public act of Milo Reno was to ask the governor to hold up the calling out of the guard until a conference could be held; he suggested Iowa City as

³⁸ *Des Moines Register*, April 13, 1931, p. 1.

³⁹ *Des Moines Tribune Capital*, April 13, 1931, p. 1.

⁴⁰ Milo Reno: *Farmers Union Pioneer*, (Iowa City, Iowa: Athens Press, 1941) p. 10.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 19-22.

⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 40.

the place for the meeting.⁴³ The governor agreed to Reno's suggestion upon the condition that the testing of the E. C. Mitchell herd be completed. The farmers then elected J. W. Lenker as their committee head to meet the governor.⁴⁴ Mitchell agreed to the tests and after they were completed, he stated, "I don't care so much about the testing but I object to the principle of the test."⁴⁵ One animal reacted. The testers met no opposition even though Mitchell faced the loss of the "reactor."

Reno met with the group of farmers previous to the governor's conference at Iowa City. Included in the group were J. W. Lenker, Paul Moore, William Butterbrodt, Lawrence Davis, author of the bill to repeal the test law, Robert Moore who was State Secretary of the Farmers' Union, and H. R. Gross, press representative of the Farmers' Union. The unofficial conference brought about no change and J. W. Lenker summed up the attitude of the group when he said to Reno: "We are just where we started."⁴⁶

The meeting with the governor took place at the Jefferson hotel in Iowa City at 1:15 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 1931. It was a closed session and the words spoken behind the closed doors were known only to those in attendance. The governor arrived accompanied by Attorney General John Fletcher and Colonel Grahl of the Iowa National Guard.⁴⁷ Colonel Grahl was there in an unofficial capacity, since the calling out of the National Guard seemed likely. The farmers were represented by Paul Moore and Jake W. Lenker.

For some unknown reason Reno did not put in an appearance, but, in commenting later concerning the whole problem, he ably summed up the farmer's position in opposing the tests. According to Reno: "The intra-dermal test is not dependable. Those cattle in

⁴³ *Des Moines Register*, April 13, 1931.

⁴⁴ *Des Moines Sunday Register*, April 12, 1931

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ *Des Moines Register*, April 13, 1931.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

which tuberculosis is present to the greatest extent will not show reaction to the test. You see there is enough tuberculin in their system to set up a wall of resistance against the serum injected."⁴⁸

Although the reasoning has been proved false, it did express the views of the farmer. But, there were enough veterinarians who believed the test invalid to support the farmers in such a view, although the test had been used for many years previous to the controversy and little or no question of its validity had been raised. In another statement, however, Reno came closer to the heart of the farmer's problem. Speaking through the *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, he said:

The condemned cattle are purchased by the packer at his own price—two cents is a good average—ninety per cent of the meat bought by the packer is passed as fit for human consumption by a federal inspector. The present test is unfair to the farmer and the public alike. It robs the farmer and does not protect the public.⁴⁹

In reality it was the economic question and not the tuberculin test that was chiefly responsible for resistance on the part of cattle owners. The farmers put forth three compromise provisions and presented them to the governor at the meeting in Iowa City. They were:

A. The farmers were to be permitted to use accredited veterinarians of their own choosing.

B. The state should withdraw all forces engaged in testing at the time.

C. The governor was to exercise every effort toward bringing to a vote the Davis bill.⁵⁰

GOVERNOR CONSIDERED DEMANDS

Governor Turner would not agree to call off the state agents, but he did permit the farmers to choose their own veterinarians, if accredited by the state. Since he felt that coercion was being used to bring about support of the Davis bill, he, therefore, refused to use his influence in the matter. An attempt in the

⁴⁸ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, April 13, 1931, p. 8.

⁴⁹ *Des Moines Register*, April 13, 1931.

⁵⁰ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, April 13, 1931.

legislature to bring about passage of the bill was defeated by a vote of 80 to 22.⁵¹ Governor Turner gave as his reason for refusing to call off the state officials that more people supported the test than objected.⁵²

The governor's acceptance of the proposal authorizing farmer-selected veterinarians seemed rather one-sided. However, the farmers agreed to call a truce, as for the most part they seemed to expect their demands to be met. At any rate they interpreted the truce to be the end of the rebellion and were satisfied with the outcome as they saw it.

The final termination of the "War," lay in the disposition of informations for assault and violations of the state quarantine act, which had been brought against twenty-three of the men in the early days of the struggle. These were for the most part dismissed or suspended.

But, the final shot of the first phase of the "Cow War" was fired by the farmers. J. W. Lenker and E. C. Mitchell attempted to obtain an injunction restraining the state from further testing; this was denied by Judge Moffit of Tipton. An appeal was filed, though there seemed little possibility that it would be granted.⁵³ The second attempt at forestalling the state by legal action was a similar petition filed by Arthur Fogg and other farmers around Tipton against the State Department of Agriculture. Eleven hundred farmers signed the petition to restrain the department, but again Judge Moffit refused to grant the injunction.⁵⁴ Though in effect the failure to secure injunctions against the state ended the war for a time, the state itself discontinued the test for a period. Quiet remained on the Tipton front, however, only as long as the state's efforts were discontinued.

RESISTANCE SEEMED DECLINING

The months of June and July of 1931 saw no cattle

⁵¹ *Des Moines Register*, April 15, 1931, p. 1.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, May 1, 1931, p. 1.

testing and consequently no opposition. The state tolerated a truce of sorts and the farmers ostensibly had come to the realization that violence was not the answer to the problem. Events, however, soon again disturbed the surface calm. On the fifth day of August, the state was granted an injunction restraining J. W. Lenker and forty-four others from obstructing the agents in their administration of the tuberculin test.⁵⁵ The injunction meant little in itself, for the state already was empowered to act; nevertheless it must have irritated some of the farmers, for on the twentieth of the month the war flared anew and law and order were disrupted.

Dr. Malcom ordered the state veterinarians to resume testing, presumably to determine if those farmers who had previously objected would now give their consent. The veterinarians conducting the tests were given specific instructions to withdraw from any farm where violence or objection was met.⁵⁶ Perhaps Dr. Malcolm had not really expected the farmers to change their minds; at any rate objections became evident almost as soon as he started to work. The first protest came in the form of the violent expulsion of a state agent from the farm of Arthur Fogg, just north of West Liberty. Dr. A. H. Joehnk of Iowa City visited the Fogg farm for the purpose of testing his cattle and found the owner more than reluctant to allow the testing. The doctor was met with a shower of eggs and water thrown by the wife and daughter of Fogg, who himself threatened to use a shotgun.⁵⁷ The doctor claimed to have been injured not by water and eggs, but by something else which presumably was thrown by the women.⁵⁸

Similar series of incidents were repeated at two other farms, though there were individual variations. William Butterbrodt, who resided about six miles

⁵⁵ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, August 5, 1931, p. 1.

⁵⁶ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, August 21, 1931, p. 1.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

⁵⁸ *Des Moines Register*, August 22, 1931, p. 1.

northeast of Tipton, assisted a state agent in his hurried exit from the farm by a well-placed kick,⁵⁹ according to the doctor, who no doubt made a reliable though prejudiced witness. The third dissenter was William Hogan, living north of Durant, who forbade the testing of his cattle, but did not attempt any act of violence.⁶⁰

Thus Dr. Malcolm learned the true temper of the farmers. They were not ready to concede that the testing should be allowed to continue without a challenge. The state immediately counter-challenged with an injunction it had previously obtained and the three resisting farmers were served with the proper papers and told to appear in court.

Thus in the first attempt at a retest, nine other farmers had been visited; of these nine, one was sick, one submitted, five were not at home, and two asked to be allowed veterinarians of their choice.⁶¹

Hogan and Butterbrodt pleaded not guilty when brought into court and were released upon eight hundred dollars bond. Fogg also pleaded not guilty but changed his plea to guilty when told of the maximum sentence which could be imposed.⁶² Fogg was fined fifty dollars and had a one day jail sentence suspended. The proceedings, though without violence, brought forth many well-wishers and sympathizers. At the time of the Butterbrodt hearing at least one hundred farmers accompanied him to the courtroom and for a time violence was feared.⁶³

SHERIFF'S AUTHORITY SUPPORTED

Faced with open and outright violation of the law, Gov. Dan Turner authorized the appointment of sixty-five state agents and sheriff's deputies to aid in the enforcement of the cattle testing law. The first place

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

⁶¹ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, August 22, 1931, p. 1

⁶² *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, August 24, 1931, p. 1.

⁶³ *Ibid.*

chosen was to be the farm of Jake Lenker of Wilton Junction.⁶⁴

Notification of the testing started rumors into rapid circulation. Reports that 325 farmers from Des Moines and Lee counties were on their way to assist the protesting farmers, spread rapidly throughout the area.⁶⁵ No verification could be found immediately for the report, but the rumor persisted. Other rumors held that masses of farmers were moving on the Lenker farm to forestall state action.⁶⁶ Still another story held that the farmers were driving their cattle out of the county in an effort to prevent the test.

Rumors reaching Tipton this morning were to the effect that objecting farmers were driving their cattle out of the county. One observer reported that a herd of twenty head were driven to the Cedar county line near Wilton last evening by a man on horseback during a down pour of rain.⁶⁷

These two reports were verified to a certain extent by later happenings though neither achieved the expected proportions.

In response to Governor Turner's move to resume the testing program, Dr. Peter Malcolm personally on September 21 had gone to the farm of Jake Lenker to perform the tests and had taken with him approximately sixty-five deputies and various state agents. This group was met by at least four hundred farmers and though the deputies used tear gas, a shower of clubs, mud and "Irish confetti" caused them to perform a strategic withdrawal.⁶⁸ Several deputies were injured and their cars smashed. Dr. Malcolm was attacked and bruised; the radiator of his car was filled with mud; the gas line was broken; tires were slashed, and windows knocked out.⁶⁹

Governor Turner had only shortly before this incident returned from Washington, D. C., where he had

⁶⁴ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, August 25, 1931, p. 1.

⁶⁵ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, September, 22, 1931, p. 1.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ *Davenport Democrat*, September 22, 1931, p. 1.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁹ *Davenport Democrat*, September 22, 1931, p. 1.

attended a conference concerning the price of corn. Although the conference solved nothing, it had been important enough to take him from the state. His almost immediate reaction to the mishandling of Dr. Malcolm and the deputies was the calling out of the National Guard. He justified his position with the following statement, "Where men are organized against government, there is only one thing to do, and that is to put down the insurrection. That is exactly what I propose to do in Cedar county."⁷⁰

Regardless of the political consequences, and that seems to have been the Governor's attitude in the whole matter, the troops moved into Tipton. The town soon became an armed camp and the soldiers in all joviality of an outing affectionately named the encampment grounds Camp Bovine or Cow Camp.⁷¹ The troops mobilized were the 168th Infantry, the 133rd Infantry and the 113th Cavalry, which brought no horses.⁷² These three regiments and the headquarters staff brought the total to nearly two thousand troops.⁷³

The troops arrived amid a small amount of heckling, but no violence. Groups of farmers gathered on street corners to speak in hushed tones of their coming and the townspeople watched with something like relief. The guardsmen accepted the duty as a joke and entered Tipton in a happy mood. With the troops came an order from the governor, enlisting the aid of seventy-five veterinarians to complete the testing. Machine guns lined the roads of Cedar county at strategic points; only persons with military passes were allowed to travel in or out of the area.⁷⁴ No farmer was allowed out of the area under any circumstances without military escort,⁷⁵ and the region quickly took on the look of an encampment.

⁷⁰ *Des Moines Register*, September 24, 1931, p. 1.

⁷¹ *Des Moines Register*, September 22, 1931, p. 1.

⁷² *Ibid.*

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ *Davenport Democrat*, September 24, 1931, p. 1.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

Quickly, efficiently, the troops, (some of them men of Cedar county) went into operation, and their first objective was the farm of Jake Lenker. Under command of Gen. Park A. Findley, Col. Glenn Haynes was sent to the Lenker farm with a detachment of men and a veterinarian. Upon their arrival they found that Lenker had removed his cattle from the premises, and Colonel Haynes immediately arrested him.⁷⁶ He was charged with moving his cattle illegally and the second of persistent rumors had been verified. The actual charge against Lenker was the moving of cattle illegally while under quarantine. He was accused of contempt of court, since he had violated the injunction granted the state.

When questioned concerning the cattle, Lenker said:

'I've sold my cattle to a neighbor who has taken them to a feed lot. I would rather do that than let that crooked bunch get hold of them.

I believe that Dan Turner sent the guard up here for an outing. I wouldn't believe anything he said anyway, for I don't think he knows what he is talking about, and then there is Hoover. He took prosperity away from us and hid it around the corner.⁷⁷

There were others who objected to the tests just as violently as had Lenker. One person voicing an opinion concerning the general problem was C. L. McKinnon, who was Vice President of the Farmers' Protective Association:

If the use of milk from reacting cows is harmful, the use of meat is equally objectionable, and yet 92 to 93% of the meat of reacting animals is sold for human consumption.

We are opposed to the bovine tuberculin test as it is administered because we consider it unreliable, inaccurate, because it doesn't detect the worst reactors, because it ruins our cattle, because many of the tested cattle die while others abort and give milk unfit for human consumption.⁷⁸

This view was shared by many farmers and their supporters, but no conclusive evidence had ever been brought to prove its validity. Enough people, how-

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ *Des Moines Register*, September 24, 1931, p. 1.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

ever, believed abortions were the result of the test to cause many of them to hold the same opinion as McKinnon. Ed Scorpil of Route 1, near Tipton, maintained that the tests induced premature births among his cattle tested in 1930 and 1931. He claimed to have lost eleven of twenty-five calves born in 1931, and thirteen of sixteen calves born in 1930.⁷⁹ How he came to the conclusion that the tuberculin test caused the abortions was never explained by Mr. Scorpil, but his belief in the fallacy of the test was as effective in determining his course as if laboratory evidence had been submitted.

The arrival of troops aroused varying reactions in the populace of Tipton. The merchants felt that it aided business and the farmers felt that it was a shabby, low trick, perpetrated by the governor. Regardless of the attitude of the various groups, the troops were in Tipton and martial law was to prevail until such time as the governor recalled them and reestablished civilian courts.

COMMUNITY JOLTED BY ARREST

The arrest of Lenker came as a definite shock to most of the farmers, for he had attained the position of leader. In a type of action lacking thorough organization, the loss of what little leadership existed was a staggering blow, but Lenker's release on bond was not long in coming. His bond was set at ten thousand dollars and he was given until October 1 to enter a plea.⁸⁰ The hearing was scheduled for Tipton, but it was changed later. Previous to his establishment of bond he had been removed from the National Guard encampment and taken to Anamosa Reformatory for the purpose of preventing violence in connection with his release.⁸¹ Governor Turner reiterated his previous statements concerning law and order and maintained that

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 12A

⁸⁰ *Des Moines Register*, September 26, 1931, p. 1.

⁸¹ *Davenport Democrat*, September 25, 1931, p. 1.

the Lenker case would be handled strictly according to law.⁸²

Lenker's terms of release prevented his interference in the testing and he returned to his farm to await trial. E. C. Mitchell, another of the original objectors, was arrested and released on five thousand dollars bond after his lawyer, J. C. France, had obtained a writ of habeas corpus. This in itself posed a legal question, for the Iowa constitution definitely permitted the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus during time of martial law. Still the writ was issued and Mitchell was released on bond.⁸³

Although the testing continued without opposition for the most part, not all farmers submitted quietly. Two men, Carl Rixe and R. P. Broders, were arrested for refusing to allow the test. On the Broders farm at least twenty-five farmers gathered and the veterinarians who attempted to test the cattle were allegedly attacked by Broders.⁸⁴

This was the exception, however, and for the most part the testing proceeded without undue difficulty except from the mud and rain which befell Tipton upon the arrival of the troops. In two days at least twenty-seven herds were tested,⁸⁵ and for all practical purposes the war was over. Though the violence ceased, the feeling of the populace had not appreciably changed. This was borne out by the fact that in Henry county, a popular meeting sent the following ultimatum to the governor.

We the undersigned, citizens of the state of Iowa, on this day, September 24, 1931, attending a massmeeting at Mount Pleasant in Henry county, go on record as asking Governor Turner to release J. W. Lenker and remove the soldiers from Cedar county immediately.

We hereby bind ourselves not to pay unpaid taxes for 1931

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, October 5, 1931, p. 1.

⁸⁵ *Des Moines Register*, September 26, 1931, p. 1.

and not to pay any in 1932 unless troops are withdrawn immediately from Cedar county.⁸⁶

The petition had seven hundred signers. The receipt of it was the instigating factor in the governor's issuance of the statement concerning law and order in the handling of the Lenker case. Governor Turner was showered with telegrams and letters, all expressing the same general protest. The Farmers' Union and the Farmers' Protective Association joined in sending a petition asking that the testing be stopped until the merits of the test could be fully determined.⁸⁷

LENKER AND MOORE AGAIN ARRESTED

Another shock suffered by the farmers was the re-arrest of Jake Lenker and Paul Moore. This second arrest did not stem from their most recent actions, but was based on their original attempts to prevent the cattle from being tested. The two men were charged with conspiracy to violate the Iowa Tuberculin Law.⁸⁸

The trial of Lenker and Moore began in the week of March 23, 1932, but not in Tipton. The state had asked for a change of venue to Jones county on the grounds that an impartial jury could not be obtained in Cedar county.⁸⁹ This fact had seemed obvious in the trials of other objectors, for of all the persons arrested by state agents and National guardsmen, only Lenker and Moore received a sentence commensurate with their crime. A minor item in *The Des Moines Register* of March 10, 1933, pointed up this fact, by noticing that the "Cow War" cases against six farmers who had been indicted for conspiracy to incite rebellion against the Tuberculin Test Law were dismissed because the courts had been unable to draw an impartial jury. This was the settlement in the majority of cases. Others were dismissed with small fines or suspended sentences.

Finally the case against Jake Lenker and Paul Moore

⁸⁶ *Davenport Democrat*, September 25, 1931, p. 1.

⁸⁷ *Davenport Democrat*, September 27, 1931, p. 1.

⁸⁸ *Des Moines Register*, October 2, 1931, p. 1.

⁸⁹ *Tipton Advertiser*, March 24, 1932, p. 1.

went to trial and the two men were convicted, which in view of public sentiment was an unexpected and somewhat startling turn of events. The Turner administration closed in January, 1933, and Clyde E. Her-ring became governor. The State Supreme Court, in December of 1933, upheld the conviction of Lenker and Moore,⁹⁰ and although they filed other appeals, by July 1934 they had exhausted all hope of obtaining releases from their sentences. And finally, on the sixth day of July 1934, Moore and Lenker were taken to the state penitentiary to begin serving the three year term which had been given them for their part in the "Cow War."⁹¹ On the fifteenth day of August, exactly forty days after their incarceration, the two men were released⁹² on parole by the state Board of Parole.

"COW WAR" AT AN END

The violent phases of the "Cow War" had ended long before the trials were held. The troops had been moved from Tipton on the second day of October, 1931,⁹³ and within a week only a very small detachment remained to aid in the testing. The war had reached a conclusion, but it had not reached a solution. Now that the violence had been suppressed and the farmers had returned to their homes, it would seem that the state had won its case and that by noticing this fact the farmer would have come to the realization that violence, agitation, and unlawful action were out of place in a modern society. Yet, if this were so, there would then have been no further disturbances elsewhere. J. S. Russell, the Farm Editor of *The Des Moines Register and Tribune*, in a personal letter to the author, gave this statement as his summary of the cause of the "Cow War."

The Cow War had its roots in the same unrest that developed the Holiday movement. The protest against testing cows was, in my opinion, merely one form of expression of resentment against low prices and depression.

⁹⁰ *Marshalltown Times-Republican*, December 12, 1933, p. 1.

⁹¹ *Des Moines Register*, July 7, 1934, p. 1.

⁹² *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, August 16, 1934, p. 1. c. 8.

⁹³ *Des Moines Tribune-Capital*, October 2, 1931, p. 5a.

If Mr. Russell is correct in his thumb-nail evaluation a complete solution to the farmers' grievances was not achieved. There was no increase in commodity prices, nor did the state provide any legislation to aid the farmer except the enactment of four emergency relief acts in the special session of the Forty-fifth General Assembly early in 1934, to aid the mortgage problem, designed to enable the owners of mortgaged real estate to keep possession of their property and at the same time preserve rights of the holders of the mortgages, thereby easing the strain of foreclosures during emergency limited to extend to March 1, 1935, but were not satisfactory to the farmers. His market had not increased and, so far as the farmer was concerned, he felt that he had gained little through his efforts. The repeal of the Tuberculin Test Law would not have solved his problem. It might have saved him a cow or two, but that would not have raised the price of milk or beef. The "Cow War" did encourage the farmers to draw one general conclusion, however, that all farmers not just a few should be organized. This idea was later carried out by Milo Reno in the Farm Holiday Movement.

The "Cow War" had ended, but other outbreaks were to follow, born of the same circumstances, reacting in the same manner and in some cases coming to the same conclusion. The final ending of the revolts may well have been speeded if the executive departments of the State of Iowa and the United States had realized that it was not a matter of suppressing a group of radicals but of aiding a group of citizens in time of need.

Much-Named Iowa Locality

During its history, the city and community of Council Bluffs, Iowa, has had nine names: Fort Kearny, Fort Fenwick, Fort Croghan, Hart's Bluffs, Trader's Point, Council Point, Miller's Hollow, Kanessville, and since 1853, Council Bluffs.—Leon C. Hills, D.D.

William H. Berry—1849-1923

By FRANCIS I. MOATS*

The democratic way of life, as we have known it in the United States, is a product of the American frontier. Never before did a condition such as obtained in the United States and in our sister dominion to the north ever present itself to a people well advanced in the arts of modern civilization. The American Revolution and the War of 1812 had swept away the western barriers, as well as minimized physical dangers. Into the frontier rushed millions whose social, economic and political life was to be determined by fast developing conditions. Whether it was the Ohio valley, the immediate trans-Mississippi region or the far Northwest, the same characteristics prevailed in each successive frontier.

There could be little stratification of society, either economic or social, under conditions that prevailed. New arrivals in a new frontier were accepted as social equals and there could be little concentration of wealth, as men of means usually avoided the hardships of the frontier. But if all were subject to common privations, it was true that here was equal opportunity for those having qualities of leadership to find an outlet, and in most communities this leadership was quickly in evidence.

Indianola and Warren county, Iowa, formed a typical frontier community one hundred years ago, and out of it came the usual institutions, local and county government, school system and churches. As institutions developed, leadership had to be found, or perhaps it was to those who possessed qualities of leadership to whom the community largely was indebted for

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its transformation. Warren county soon had men to whom the community turned for the building of its political and social institutions and on whom they came to depend. The Hendersons could be counted among the earliest as providing such leadership and the B. C. Berry family was soon to take its place with the Hendersons in sharing this leadership.

Indianola was somewhat unique, however, in that its first generation was to produce three men who rose to such outstanding positions. Their guidance was felt, not only locally but became statewide in influence. First of the three in order of seniority was J. H. Henderson, born at Ackworth near Indianola, in 1848, and one of the first white children born in Warren county. Second was William H. Berry, born in Illinois in 1849, who with his parents migrated to Warren county in 1867. Five years later came A. V. Proudfoot from Clarke county to take his place alongside the other two slightly older men, who had already established themselves in the community.

These three men were to have much in common in their contributions to local and state institutions. All were trained in the law profession by the accepted standards of the time and all were admitted to the bar. All were prominent and active members of the Methodist church of Indianola and all played outstanding roles in establishing and building Simpson college. Two of the three, Mr. Berry and Mr. Proudfoot, rose to positions of statewide prominence as members and promoters of the fraternal society, the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Two were to serve in the Iowa State senate and two were to be given serious consideration for the office of governor of the state, while two were to serve their state for long periods of time in important administrative positions. At this time, the public career of William H. Berry only will be reviewed with the hope that it may be followed by a similar sketch of the public career of each of the others.

ATTAINED DISTINCTION AS LAWYER

William H. Berry, son of B. C. Berry, was born in Cass county, Illinois, October 23, 1849. B. C. Berry had served as captain of Company D, 114th Illinois Infantry, during the Civil war. The family with four children of whom William was the eldest, migrated to Iowa in 1867 and settled on a farm near Indianola. William enrolled in the preparatory department of Simpson College and was graduated from the college with the Bachelors degree in 1872. After his graduation he studied law with J. H. Henderson, who already had a law office in Indianola. Mr. Berry was admitted to the bar in 1873. He immediately became a law partner of Mr. Henderson under the firm name of Henderson & Berry. This association was continued until 1885, at which time Mr. Henderson was elected judge of the district court. Mr. Berry continued the practice of law alone until 1896, at which time he was entering his duties as a member of the state senate. Judge Henderson then resigned the judgeship and returned to the practice of law under the renewed firm title of Henderson & Berry.

In 1901, Mr. Henderson formed a partnership with his son, Frank, who had just completed a law course and had been admitted to the bar. Mr. Berry continued the practice of law alone in his office from 1901 to 1903, under the firm name of Berry & Watson from 1903 to 1906, alone again from 1906 to 1911, as Berry & Watson again from 1911 to 1920 and as Berry & Ripper from 1920 until his death in 1923. During those fifty years of law practice, he is reported to have attended all of the two hundred sessions of the district court except one, and was absent from it only because of illness.

In 1897, he joined with G. A. Worth and others to form the Worth Savings Bank at Indianola. Mr. Berry was chosen president of the institution and remained in that capacity until his death.

During the twenty years following his admission to

the bar, Berry had become one of Indianola's most prominent citizens and had laid the foundation for a career in both public and private life that was to make him the most colorful, and perhaps the most versatile of Warren county residents. He had become a member of the board of trustees of Simpson College and always was a man with constructive ideas. He had become superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school, a position which he held for thirty years. He long was a member of the church board of trustees. For many years he had been active in local and state political party affairs and had become a national as well as a state figure in fraternal society circles.

But, to a large degree it was personality that made him a marked man. No one who saw and heard him could ever forget him. His personality was colorful and positive. His voice was strong and sometimes almost booming, but never harsh. His features were prominent, but not coarse, and added to these characteristics were his long flowing locks of hair that distinguished him from all his associates. He was a man of strong intellect and a man thoroughly devoted to service. Contemporaries relate that he was at his best in a plea to a jury when convinced of the justice of his cause. He had great organizing ability, boundless energy and capacity for intense application. It is told by contemporaries that in the midst of a plea he might discard coat, then vest, then loosen his collar and finally end with his sleeves rolled up and his whole energy thrown into the case. He was not one to compromise if convinced that he was in the right. Such was the William H. Berry who in 1895 was to be thrust into the maelstrom of political activity. It would scarcely be expected that he could have smooth sailing when seeking public support, for he would not compromise when a question of principle was at issue.

ENTERED THE IOWA SENATE

During the summer of 1895, the *Indianola Times* and the *Indianola Herald* had promoted the candidacy of

Mr. Berry as a nominee of the Republican party for the Iowa senate. There was an established practice in the senatorial district comprising Warren and Clarke counties of alternating the office between the two counties. Under this custom, for it was only a custom, the incumbent served but one term and then the office would pass to a candidate from the other county for the next term. This was the year for Warren county and Mr. Berry met with no opposition within the party. The senatorial district convention met at New Virginia early in July and by courtesy his name was presented to the convention by J. H. Jamison of Clarke county, the retiring senator, who had been made chairman of the convention and was chairman of the Clarke county delegation. Mr. Temple of the Clarke county delegation then moved that voting be by acclamation and there were no dissenting votes. The vote was then declared unanimous and after what was declared to be an inspiring address by Mr. Berry, the convention adjourned. There was little opposition in the election campaign and Berry carried the district with over 70% of the total vote—well above the usual party strength of the district in that election.¹

Senator Berry gained recognition in the Iowa senate. He was appointed chairman of the Library committee, and in addition was given a place on the Ways and Means, Railroads, Rules, Congressional Districts and Federal Relations committees.

An act by the previous General Assembly had authorized a general code revision and created a non-partisan Code Commission to codify the laws of Iowa and report to the 26th General Assembly.² There had been no general code revision since 1873. In this 1896 session a Code Revision committee was created, to which was referred the report of the Code Commission, which committee subdivided said report and assigned different parts and titles thereof to the proper standing committees of the senate for consideration and report. In

¹ *Indianola Times*, July 11, 1895.

² Acts of 25th G. A., Chap. 115—Session Laws.

the extra session a year later, a similar committee was assigned the same duties, also having power to recommend a course of procedure to facilitate the business of the legislature.³ Mr. Berry was appointed to membership upon this important committee. Said one of Iowa's leading historians: "Senator Berry took a prominent part in codifying the laws of the state."⁴

As this regular session drew to a close, he also was made a member of the Siftings committee. Such an assignment usually went to members of longer service and this appointment was evidence of the confidence and respect which he had gained for himself. He served in this capacity in both regular sessions of the General Assembly during his four-year term. All these committee assignments were gratifying for a new member.

As chairman of the Library committee, Berry had a part in revising the code in this field, but his greatest contribution during the three sessions in which he served as a member was in the field of regulating fraternal insurance societies. He had risen to an important position in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He knew the need for the regulation of these societies, and sponsored and to a large degree wrote the measure that bore his name, known as Senate File 1, entitled, "An Act Defining Fraternal Beneficiary Societies, Orders or Associations and Regulating Same." The measure was enacted into law and became the basic law for regulation of these organizations.⁵ Other measures bore his name but were marked "by request." Insofar as direct legislation was concerned, except for a law defining criminal procedure known as Senate File No. 316, no other bill that bore his name was enacted into law. With one term's experience in the senate and being a seasoned lawyer, Berry became a prominent figure in the special session and had an important part during the regular session of 1898.

³ *Senate Journal*, 26th G. A., p. 23, and Extra Session 26th G. A., p. 33.

⁴ Gue, B. F., *History of Iowa*, IV, p. 19.

⁵ *Senate Journal*, 26th G. A., p. 37.

URGED AS CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS

The prominent place he attained in the legislative sessions led some of his friends to believe that he might replace Capt. J. A. T. Hull in congress. Mr. Hull was serving his third term and was a candidate for re-election. Early in June "A Berry Republican Club was formed for the purpose of giving our home town candidate a congress boom."⁶ The congressional district convention was held at Winterset August 4. The Warren county convention was held June 27 and selected a delegation to support the nomination of the Indianolan.

In the meantime, the Dallas county convention selected a favorite son, Judge Edmund Nichols, for the nomination. Other than those from Warren and Dallas counties, the delegates from the rest of the counties in the district were controlled entirely by the Hull organization and the influence of Polk county's large number of delegates was decisive. The names of both Mr. Berry and Mr. Nichols were presented to the convention and Mr. Berry was called upon for an address. A reporter stated, that "he made sledge hammer blows"; but on the roll call Captain Hull received all of the votes except those of Warren and Dallas counties. Delegates from these two counties then moved that the vote be made unanimous for Mr. Hull. Although this was in appearance a favorite son movement, it may have been a factor in developing antagonism toward Mr. Berry in his campaign for re-election to the state senate in 1899.⁷

The second regular session of Berry's term in the senate of 1898 was without particular incident. He retained the prestige that he had won during the previous sessions, and should he return for another term, his position was such that he would most surely become chairman of the Ways and Means committee—an important committee post in the senate. But he

⁶ *Indianola Times*, June 6, 1896.

⁷ Quoted from *Des Moines Register and Leader*, in *Indianola Times*, August 8, 1896.

was confronted with the alternating usage between the counties of the senatorial district as regards renomination. If he became a candidate for re-election, he faced the possibility of intense opposition in Clarke county. Then, opportunity would be afforded to organize every kind of discontent that might have arisen during the four years.

But to accept silently the one term principle meant that the prestige and opportunity for leadership that seemed assured if he were permitted a second term almost would be lost, even though he might be accorded another term four years later. Opportunity for real service and for position of responsibility in any legislative body comes only to those of experience and long service. But champions of practices in many areas held that rotation in office after relatively short terms was essential to prevent autocratic control of the machinery of government. Berry chose to seek renomination at the hands of the district convention that would be held again at New Virginia on July 17, 1899. The Warren county delegates were chosen to accord him the entire vote of the county; but the Clarke county delegates were as solidly opposed.

The situation when the convention assembled was tense. Forty Clarke county Republicans were there to support their official delegates in their demand that the alternating principle be respected and a poll of this group showed only three who would pledge their support to Mr. Berry in case he were nominated in defiance of this usage. The Clarke county leaders who had so enthusiastically endorsed him four years earlier now placed their former senator, J. H. Jamison, before the convention, while J. H. Henderson, chairman of the Warren county delegates, presented the name of Senator Berry to the convention and defended Warren county's action by stating that it was a well established principle in American political life that men in elective office should normally serve two terms. On the first ballot that followed immediately, Berry re-

ceived 13 votes; his opponent, Senator Jamison 9. Senator Berry was declared nominated.⁸

Before the convention adjourned, M. L. Temple of Clarke county declared that Senator Berry would lose Clarke county to the Democratic nominee by a majority of from 1,000 to 2,000 votes. The *Osceola Sentinel*, Republican, bitterly assailed the action of its Warren county neighbor, charging that it had used arbitrary power of its greater number to override a sacred principle of fair play. The Clarke county delegation then attempted to obtain from Senator Berry a pledge to support Governor Gear for the United States senate if he won the election in November. To this plea Judge Henderson gave an emphatic no.⁹

DENIED SECOND TERM IN SENATE

There was not a vigorous campaign, for the Democratic nominee made but little effort to win the election; nor were the results as had been anticipated. Whereas the Republican leaders had been certain that Berry would lose in Clarke county to his Democratic opponent, he actually carried that county by a majority of 126 votes, which was but 200 less than the regular party vote of that county. But in Warren county where the principle of alternating the office should have been a small factor, he lost by a majority of 338, which was more than 600 less than the regular Republican vote of the county. The results in both counties came as a surprise and it has not been easy to determine just what the factors were that influenced the results.¹⁰

There can be little doubt that the question of alternating the office was an important factor with many voters,¹¹ but it does not appear that this was the de-

⁸ *Indianola Advocate Tribune*, July 20, 1899.

⁹ *Osceola Sentinel*, July 20, 1899.

¹⁰ *Indianola Advocate Tribune*, November 9, 1899.

¹¹ *Osceola Sentinel*, November 9, 1899.

The editor of the *Osceola Sentinel* expressed the opinion that it was the arbitrary action of the Warren county party leaders in forcing the nomination of Senator Berry at July convention that led to his defeat in the November election.

cisive factor, for the votes lost were in Warren county. One Indianola paper pointed to the deep rift within the Republican party, charging that Berry was in league with Cummins and would support him for the United States senate. Cummins, it was claimed, was in league with big business and thus an enemy of the common man. Gear, it was contended by this faction, was the man who should have the support and thus bring the railroad interests and other big business under government control.

The historical facts, however, scarcely support this contention. The great Progressive movement was at fever heat at this time. "Standpat" and "Progressive" were the terms that marked the division in the Republican party and Cummins could scarcely be dubbed a "Standpatter." Cummins had declared himself, and Senator Berry also as emphatically had taken a clear stand with the Progressives.

"Special interest," as the term was used, referred to the veterans organization and railroad influence on legislative bodies. This was the age of big business as yet uncontrolled by law. And no corporations were more influential politically than were the railroads. It was common knowledge then in Iowa that railroad opposition to a candidate for office meant almost certain defeat. The Interstate Commerce act had been passed but was ineffective as were also the Grange laws. Lobbyists for the Burlington railroad in its territory and for the Northwestern in its territory could largely determine who would be nominated under the convention system and who would be elected at the forthcoming election.

Congressman Hull was no enemy of the railroads, but Senator Berry had offended him when he allowed his name to be presented at the congressional convention in 1896. A. B. Cummins, member of the 22nd Iowa General Assembly, later had led the fight for the direct primary as a means of combatting special interests and was to lead the successful fight for such a law

during his term as governor in 1902. His whole career as governor and in the United States senate a few years later found him always arrayed as one of the leaders of the great progressive movement. It was inevitable that Berry would have the ill will of special interests and the ill will of the "Standpat" faction of his own party. (For a complete analysis of a contemporary of this movement, see article, "Iowa Voting Practices," by Emory H. English in ANNALS OF IOWA, Vol. xxix, No. 4, for April, 1948).

The political approach of opponents therefore appears to have been to arouse an antagonism toward Berry among his own friends at home and among these friends who had been his most ardent admirers. The attack could not be direct and nothing aroused antagonism more quickly than the charge of friendship with big business. And with it went the charge of a Henderson-Berry domination of the party. Not only did Warren county give him an adverse vote but Indianola, which had given him an enormous vote in 1895, now gave his Democratic opponent a majority of 10 votes.

Some years later a close associate of Mr. Berry in public life was to interpret this election. Said he: "To the Twenty-sixth General Assembly Senator Berry brought the elements of strong character, ripe experience and rare good sense. He had no fads to flourish, no unseemly ambitions prompting fantastic performance . . . In constructive legislation he was sound and strong . . . He acquired influence such as few senators gain in a single term . . .

"Then Senator Berry fell victim to party malice in his own home . . . Berry had made good in Des Moines; Berry had become the biggest man in his bailiwick. If re-elected, he was to be the ranking member of the ranking committee in the senate (Ways and Means). It was time to put a crimp in this flourishing career . . . His own county beat him with many stripes."¹²

¹² Funk, A. B., in *Des Moines Register*, March 29, 1923.

Warren county thus defeated for re-election to the senate its ablest legislator and ended the legislative career of a man with great promise of service to the state. Whatever the cause for defeat, regrets poured in from every quarter. The *Indianola Herald* declared the defeat to be a humiliation—not only to Senator Berry but to the county and district. The *Osceola Sentinel*, declared the results to be most unfortunate for the state, for the party and for Senator Berry. Governor Shaw commented: "I very much regret the defeat of Mr. Berry, as it is a loss to the state. It is the one dark spot in our otherwise splendid victory."¹³

AN UNAPPRECIATIVE CONSTITUENCY

This local election affords an excellent example of a study of local politics and the confusion that may arise in the minds of the voters. Here was a man with a good record in constructive leadership, who was defeated by a candidate with no particular qualities of leadership and a man who could promise but little if elected. Does the democratic process always seek out the strong man for positions of leadership and responsibility? Or does "democracy seek its own level" in its choice of those who are to be its public servants? Perhaps here was a candidate who had moved too far ahead of his constituency.

Warren and Clarke counties continued the practice of alternating the office until recent years. It is the practice now that a man may serve two terms in succession, thus affording better opportunity for rising to positions of leadership; for the affairs of Iowa's General Assembly are shaped largely by those who have served longer.

This was Senator Berry's last attempt to gain elective office. There is no evidence of bitterness on his part growing out of the experience. Big prizes were dangled before him as his friends sought to promote his candidacy for high office, but he was always to refuse. However, his career in public life was by no

¹³ Quoted in *Indianola Herald*, November 23, 1899.

means ended and perhaps his greatest public service was yet to be rendered, but in a far different capacity.

During the session of the 27th General Assembly 1898, Berry served as chairman of the committee on Charitable Institutions. These institutions were those now administered through the state board of control, but at that time each was administered through a separate board of trustees, each of which was responsible direct to the governor. There was much confusion and inefficiency in their administration. And now Berry was to be a factor in this much needed reform. This general assembly created the board of control through which they are now administered. Berry was never a silent member and, says an eminent Iowa historian: "Berry was an active promoter of the legislation that established the board of control."¹⁴

The part that he played in formulating this important piece of legislation had given Berry a familiarity with these institutions. When the board of parole was created in 1907 by the 32nd General Assembly, the governor turned to him as a man eminently fitted to be the board's first chairman.¹⁵ Said Berry's old friend and associate in the senate, A. B. Funk: "When the board of parole was created, Governor Cummins called Senator Berry into this important service. With unremitting devotion he applied his splendid legal talent and moral equipment to every phase of this service without regard to popular clamor or anything else except the merits of each particular case."¹⁶

The board of parole was to formulate its own rules and regulations and was to study other institutions

¹⁴ Gue, B. F., *History of Iowa*, IV, p. 19.

¹⁵ *Iowa Official Register*, 1907-08, p. 244.

The term of office for members of this board as established by law was six years with the provision that term for each member would be staggered in such manner as to have the term of one expiring every second year. The terms of the first members were fixed at two, four and six years respectively with the further provision that the one whose term first expired would be chairman of the board. Berry was made the first chairman. Acts of 32nd G.A., pp. 194-5.

¹⁶ *Des Moines Register*, March 29, 1923.

of a similar character as a basis of formulating its rules of procedure. The members visited among other institutions the one at Joliet, Illinois, and the rules formulated were to last for many years. Compensation was a per diem allowance and not attractive. The board met quarterly and spent much time visiting the institutions involved. There was neither glamor nor financial reward in such a task; but in 1909, when Governor Carroll, who had succeeded to the governorship, asked him to accept another six-year term, he did so, but retired in 1915, after eight years of service.

An appraisal of these eight years is not possible to this writer, but the vast range of the hundreds of cases that came before the board is evidence of the tremendous responsibility and care that must be exercised by a conscientious group who had the welfare of their wards at heart. And no one ever questioned the sincerity and devotion to duty of W. H. Berry once he had assumed responsibility for a task. It seems no exaggeration to state that in this enterprise was revealed his greatest measure of unrequited public humanitarian service—a service to members of a group in society who could at best silently sing his praises for a service little known to any except those directly involved.

CONSIDERED THE GOVERNORSHIP

But admirers were not content that the one-time dynamic senator should remain politically inactive. Pressure was brought to bear to have him enter the campaign for nomination for governor in 1912. It is not fully apparent as to the source of this pressure except as he tells it in his own words. On January 13, 1911, he gave the following statement to the *Des Moines Register and Leader* concerning the governorship: "It has of course been pleasing to me to hear good words from my friends and fellow Republicans connecting my name with such a nomination . . . but it seems a little early to be organizing for the succession . . . To be governor of the state is a worthy ambition for any

man . . . I do not hesitate to say that I would like to be governor and, while I say at the outset that I will not precipitate a campaign, I expect when the time comes to be in the field for the Republican nomination for governor in 1912."¹⁷

The preliminary campaign failed to gather the momentum that had been anticipated, and Mr. Berry was a realist. Little was heard from the campaign and early in 1912 the full fury of the conflict within the party between Standpat and Progressive factions revealed that the strife within the party could only result in a bitter campaign. He evidently did not desire to be a participant in such a party fight and in December, 1911, brought the matter to a close insofar as his aspirations were concerned by a formal announcement in an Indianola paper. It read:

Some months ago I gave to the press a statement to the effect that I might be a candidate for the nomination on the Republican ticket for the office of Governor. That announcement was made for two reasons: first, because I had ambitions to become governor of the state; second, because your paper and many friends in Warren county and friends in other counties in the state had expressed themselves as favorable to my candidacy . . .

There are two reasons why a man is justified in seeking public office. First, there must be a large and representative group who earnestly desire that he seek office and, second, a man must have a conviction that he has an issue at stake.

He expressed the opinion that the number desiring his nomination did not warrant his entering the campaign and that he failed to come to have any real issue to present. He would not, therefore, become a candidate for the nomination.¹⁸ He was now past the sixty-year mark and other than remaining active in his party relationship, he took no vigorous part in political activities.

To any except the most vigorous, this political ac-

¹⁷ *Des Moines Register*, January 13, 1911. From a statement given by Mr. Berry to this newspaper. It was printed on the front page of this paper—an evidence of the high respect in which he was held.

¹⁸ *Indianola Herald*, December 11, 1911. From a written statement made by Mr. Berry for this newspaper.

tivity, together with arduous tasks with the board of parole, would have been beyond endurance. It should be remembered that he was dependent on his law practice and this was large and, for his day, lucrative. Recall again that of two hundred sessions of the district court during his fifty years he missed but one session; that his church activities were extensive and arduous, and then add to this the tremendous amount of time and energy he gave to Simpson College.

DEVOTED TO SIMPSON COLLEGE

His contribution in service to Simpson College was enormous. His father, B. C. Berry had served on the board of trustees for some time but resigned in 1887. William was immediately elected to take his place. Turn through the minutes of board meetings and one is struck by the appearance of the name Berry in so many relations to the college. He was a member of the committee on faculty and if a new president were to be selected, Berry's name would appear on the committee—and he was never a silent member in the matter of faculty policies. If a loan need be had to finance a deficit, it was Berry, or if it was a long range constructive financial program that was to be undertaken, it was Berry. Then it was Berry who insisted on the economy of a central heating plant and it was Berry who supervised its installation and presented the financial statement showing how the funds had been obtained. For thirty years he served this institution as a member of its board of trustees and during more than the last three as president of that board. These last three years were tense ones, for he could not do other than direct his energy and zeal to the many perplexing problems of the college. He resigned in 1917, after these long years of service.

Berry's devotion to his church was equal to his devotion to the college. For thirty years also he served it in varied capacities. Those who were in close contact with the organization express amazement at the energy which he devoted to it. This relationship re-

sulted in many close friendships and, on his part, a feeling of responsibility for his friends and associates.

It might be presumed that with the added activity of a public nature the Berry family could have had but little home or social life. But the Berry home was one with much social activity. It was a home in which the state's first citizens in public life were frequent guests. It was also a center of the city's social activities and a center of community welfare activity. The family ties were close. Mr. Berry was above all a family man. There was but one child, Don L., but two cousins and a nephew and niece made this their home over a period of thirty years and made it a center of the young life of the community.

The home was headquarters for family dinners. Seldom, during the 32 years from the time of the building of his home until his death, did the Berrys fail to gather from a dozen to three dozen relatives into their home for Christmas dinner. There was a standing invitation for parents and other members of both sides of the family to make the Berry house the center for the day. Nor did Mr. Berry often sit down to his own Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner without having provided an equally good dinner for some less fortunate family. His delight was to carry the dinner to the recipient with his own word of good cheer.

A proper appraisal could scarcely be other than that of his old friend and associate, Sen. A. B. Funk, who said: "Berry had become the biggest man in his bailiwick." That statement if applied to statewide activities could scarcely be challenged. He died March 25, 1923, of a heart attack as he was opening his office door.

A Forgotten Foundation

What separates us from the totalitarian regimes is our belief that man does not belong to the State—but to his Creator. This is the forgotten foundation of democracy in the only sense in which democracy is truly valid and of liberty in the sense in which it can hope to endure.—Walter Lippman.

“The General Welfare”

By W. HAROLD BRENTON

*President of the American Bankers Association
at the New Hampshire Bankers Convention*

My desire today is to draw from history some events of the past that can serve as a useful guide to our course in the future. Men have greater opportunities than monkeys for men can read history and thus better shape their future from the experiences of others. Man has experienced 5,000 years of recorded history; and throughout most of that period, the average man has had little to look forward to for himself and his family. Our ancestors were a living part of that procession, and your ancestors were there.

We are now living through another period in the procession of man, and there is just as much time ahead as that which has passed. So, with time in such abundance, the speed of our travel is not as important as the direction in which we are headed. Throughout these past ages, a few men have stood out boldly in contrast to the masses of men. It is those men who stood out that have made history worthy of recording and study.

The Greeks from the 4th to the 7th century, B.C., produced some of the greatest men ever known. They made the first start in the direction of a capitalistic democracy. Some historians have compared early Greek history with our own history, as neither people was tied down by tradition. Both were able to profit from a knowledge of history and so were able to select the best from the past and avoid some of the pitfalls from the experiences of others. The Greeks learned from the experiences of the Babylonians, the Egyptians, and the Phoenicians.

The Greeks were the first to give individual rights to their citizens. They could own property and use it

to make a profit. They were the first to recognize that laws for governing men should be complete and leave as little as possible to the discretion of administrators.

Had the Greeks been able to retain the good start they made at democracy, history since then might have been far different. The fact that they did not reach or maintain their goal does not detract from the fact that they made a noble attempt at freedom and were the first to lay its groundwork, and our ancestors who followed were guided by their example.

To the next important period of bringing freedom to man we must make a long, long jump—clear to the 13th century A.D. During the reign of King John of England (1199-1216), the nobles forced him to sign the Magna Charta which guaranteed them, the nobles, some very important individual rights. Next, the system of parliamentary government was placed in use under his grandson, Edward I; and thus a tremendous step forward was achieved toward the emancipation of man.

LESSONS OF HISTORY IGNORED

Not many centuries after this, our ancestors started settling on American shores in order that they might gain greater freedom, not just for the aristocracy but for the average man. After two hundred years, the colonists realized that they had been so negligent in their new world that again minorities were being suppressed and situations created which they had come here to avoid. They were ignoring some of the lessons of history.

This led to another great step in man's progress toward freedom. Thirty-nine remarkable men (and remarkably young men, for their average age was about forty) created the greatest document ever known for the general welfare of man. They were trying to establish a pattern that would protect man from his own natural weakness.

May I read to you the preamble of the Constitution of the United States of America:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

When Benjamin Franklin was leaving the final meeting of the constitutional convention, he was questioned, "What kind of a government have you set up?" Mr. Franklin replied, "A Republic, if you can keep it." There it is—A Republic, if we can keep it.

In recent years, we have been straying, little by little, from the original pattern and concept of a free economy. It is very easy to drift gradually away from our original high principle or good pattern. To illustrate this point, I remember very clearly the boyhood story my father used to tell me about his building of an old-fashioned board walk. Grandfather started him out with a pattern—a board exactly two and one-half feet long—and father was to saw a great many pieces and lay them side by side. He started out bravely enough and the walk looked all right at first, but it gradually grew wider and wider until it lost its original form. Father had used each board he cut as a pattern for the next one instead of measuring each board by the original correct pattern.

We, the people, in our original pattern—the constitution—were given the responsibility for determining our own private destiny; but through neglect we have failed to comprehend some of the insidious processes that have been chopping away at our original pattern.

A MORE STABLE ECONOMY NEEDED

Many of the forces that contribute to our general welfare are financial, and therefore they are right in the bailiwick of bankers.

I want to comment on several situations which have bearing on the attainment of a more stable economy. It is not so important that you agree with my view-

points on these subjects; but it is important that more bankers read and think and understand about them, for it is the combined, informed intelligent thoughts of many people which bring sound decisions.

One—A balanced international exchange of goods and dollars. The attainment of a peaceful free world is much dependent upon a balanced international exchange of goods. Proper methods for expediting world trade are vital considerations facing this administration and the congress.

We should recall the sound principles established in our constitution. Among them was the prohibition of tariff barriers between the states. In fact, the desire to curtail internal tariffs was one of the arguments in favor of the constitution; the trade wars between the jealous states had developed to the proportions of economic suicide. Undoubtedly the elimination of trade barriers between the states helped to set the stage for the economic development of our young, debtor nation.

THE SCHUMAN PLAN

Now the Schuman Plan, for the six debtor countries of Western Europe, already has eliminated tariffs and the snarl of trade barriers for the coal and steel industries. The objective is to increase production and make more steel available at lower cost. If it achieves this high purpose, and cartel agreements are avoided, it will also stand as a model of free trade accomplishment.

There is a growing public consciousness of the mutual advantages of a freer world trade. A durable world trade must be a two-way street. We are beginning to realize that the living standards of other people must gradually be improved in order to maintain our own living standards and in order to live in peace. We also know that we must rely on the underdeveloped foreign markets, for they are the outlets for the volume of goods which flow from our ever increasing technological production. Our markets must be open

to foreign goods so they will have the dollars to buy our products.

Since we have achieved such a high level of productivity and are now a creditor nation, it becomes necessary that we reappraise our position on world trade. The stimulating of world trade must be accomplished through numerous methods, and the present concern is when and how.

Trade barriers should be adjusted to allow more foreign goods to move into our markets. We should not base a broad policy on isolated situations, even though such cases will need special consideration; but a broad policy must be based on what is good for most of our people.

For years there was opposition to labor-saving machinery and techniques because of the fear of reduced employment. However, we learned that greater efficiency led to increased production, which created more employment and greater purchasing power. Likewise a stimulated world trade should bring greater world employment and prosperity.

ONLY PRIMED THE PUMP

Of basic importance is the fact that while stimulating prosperity abroad, we must keep a stable economy at home. Moreover, a foreign country which desires to expand its flow of world trade must place its finances on a sound basis. Since 1946, our congress voted thirty billion dollars of foreign aid to prime the pump of trade. In our noble efforts, we were willing to strain our own economy in order to try and improve the welfare of other people. It does not appear that we got our money's worth. In many cases, we merely strengthened socialistic regimes and delayed those countries from taking the initiative in working out their own problems. From now on, the prosperity of other countries must become increasingly dependent upon their own ability to soundly manage their own affairs.

A commonly mentioned method for bolstering the financial condition of other countries is through the

investment of American private capital. This offers great possibilities, providing the foreign country can assure a proper economic climate and legal stability. A proper climate is created between governments. Then when private enterprise has reasonable protection, it will seek outlets where its funds will be useful and without government guaranties.

Foreign investments must be mutually advantageous to both the investor and the people of the foreign country. There are many examples of where U. S. private enterprise has successfully invested in foreign countries and at the same time pointed the way toward enlightened economic know-how. To help foreign peoples develop their own production facilities through our technological knowledge will be much more effective and less costly. This can be a most proper type of Point Four program.

Our people should start now to acquaint themselves with the pros and cons of foreign trade. They should make the decision of whether we reduce trade barriers and allow foreign goods to compete more freely in our market, or whether we wish foreign aid to remain as a fixed charge against our government. People must decide what is in their best interest.

World trade is the lifeline of a dynamic, free world economy.

LESS DEPENDENCE ON GOVERNMENT

Two—the stability of banks. One of the important ways to strengthen the capital structure of banks is by the establishment of adequate reserves for losses.

We can't have a stable economy without strong banks. If we are to maintain a strong free economy in America, it is a "must" that banks be able to meet a crisis without depending on government for financial support. Banks should be bulwarks of strength in a crisis. (This was not true in the last depression). Otherwise they add to the emergency instead of being able to lend a supporting hand. The association is studying formulas and working with the treasury

department toward a workable solution of the reserve problem.

The present statutory law in the internal revenue code permits as a deduction for income tax purposes a reasonable amount which can be added to a reserve for bad debts. In 1947, when mimeograph 6209 was adopted, under the law, it was the understanding of the treasury department and the American Bankers Association that the method would be tried on an experimental basis. The original formula had considerable merit because it was an effort in the right direction, but through use it has been found to be inadequate.

It is the firm belief of the A.B.A. that a more realistic, workable, and equitable formula should be substituted. The present regulation should be broadened and simplified, and this can be done under the existing statutory law.

Here are two basic principles which are necessary for a proper reserve:

1. The reserve must be large enough to do a complete job—covering losses that tend to be concentrated in poor years.

2. The same reserve formula should apply to all banks since they operate under the same economic conditions.

We believe the treasury department has men in it who recognize the wisdom of a broader reserve formula. What they need is to be convinced that the public will recognize the propriety for an adequate reserve and that such reserve will give protection to the public's best interests in times of stringency.

Just as any business man depreciates his fixed assets over a period of years, so all bankers should provide deterioration reserves for their loan portfolios over a period of years.

The public, and men in government, must be made to understand that an adequate reserve allowance is distinctly not a device for tax avoidance. An ade-

quate reserve can be made one of our useful tools for ironing out the peaks and valleys and perpetuating a strong economy in this country.

CREDIT NEEDS OF SMALL BUSINESS

Three—Congress actually is considering measures to broaden the authority of existing government agencies, or to create a new agency for the express purpose of making direct, guaranteed or insured loans to small business. These bills are being considered despite the fact that congress has not decided definitely what disposition should be made of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or the Small Defense Plants Administration, or the authority given to the Federal Reserve Banks under 13 (b) of the Federal Reserve Act.

I would like to comment on small business credit needs and the ethics of lending by any governmental agency. It is estimated that more than 90 per cent of the four million business establishments in this country are small business. They are the bulwark of our free enterprise system, and we must remain constantly alert to see that they have a healthy climate in which to operate.

It often becomes a moot question as to the exact line of demarcation between the constitutional responsibilities of government and the inalienable rights of the individual. Consequently, citizens must guard vigilantly against any attempts on the part of the government to extend its jurisdiction into the field of private enterprise.

If the sound credit needs of the four million business enterprises are being met satisfactorily through private credit sources, but the government nevertheless enters into this field of credit extension, then the line of demarcation has been crossed and the free enterprise system guaranteed by our constitution is placed in jeopardy. On the other hand, if the worthy credit needs of business, large or small, are not being met by private enterprise in some period, or in times of national emergency such as war or depression, then

it does become the duty of the government in the public interest to meet such needs, but only during the time of emergency.

An emergency existed from the R.F.C. was formed, and it filled a gap in credit availability during the time of the depression in the 30's and during World War II. Trouble arose because its areas of operation were not clearly defined and because it was not permitted to expire when it had served its purpose.

So the question of extension of credit to small business through the R.F.C. or some other government credit agency depends upon whether or not the banks are meeting the worth-while small business credit needs.

Business requires financial assistance from banks for operating purposes. Equity capital is also needed by small business, but furnishing equity capital is not the function of either the government or banks.

THE BUILDING OF EQUITY CAPITAL

Primarily, equity capital should be obtained through private investment or by retention of business earnings. Excessive taxation has limited the capital funds which are available to small business from private sources. Instead of spending money to create another government agency, the proper way to help small business is for government to continue to reduce expenses and to reduce taxes, and then private enterprise can supply its own capital.

It can also be said that if the Bureau of Internal Revenue provided banks with a better formula for loss depreciation, banks could do an even better job of extending credit to small business.

There is no question but what there are today ample banking facilities in this country to meet the worth-while credit requirements of small business. Banks have been doing an increasingly constructive job in meeting such needs. The volume of bank loans and the competitive position and strength of banks are convincing arguments on that point. In the period we

have just passed, had there been no R.F.C., I firmly believe that the worth-while credit requirements of small business would have been cared for by the banks.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation or any new government agency conceived for similar lending purpose is not only unnecessary but is placing the government squarely in competition with banking institutions, and thus violates the principles of free enterprise.

The trend for the moment is toward less government in business. If this trend is to continue, business men and bankers must do a selling and a telling job of what they can and will do. If we keep the government out of the credit business, then we must take full responsibility for meeting proper credit requirements. We must do our jobs well, or the trend toward government competition will again gain momentum.

EQUITABLE INTEREST RATES

Four—During the past several years, there has been a growing understanding of the role that sound money management plays in our economy and how it helps to protect the purchasing power of the dollar.

Business men and bankers have consistently criticized controlled markets and for twenty years have been crying for an honest dollar. Now we are returning to our traditional "supply and demand" philosophy of government. Interest rates have increased, but the rates have been established in a free market and not by government edict.

It is disheartening to hear and read of the criticism of higher interest rates and the suggestions for a return to government bond price support. Many who have criticized are confirmed believers in soft money, while others have failed to realize that stable money sometimes comes at a cost. Artificially stimulated easy money would be a return to inflation and detrimental to the value of the dollar which is now beginning to stabilize in terms of its purchasing power. The

Federal Reserve Board could have pumped much credit into the banking system, but such a course would have been inflationary and not in keeping with its obligations to assist in maintaining a well balanced productive economy.

Interest rates have gone up because supply and demand is again at work. Money is tight with many banks because of the increased demand for loans, and the fact that the Federal government may need to borrow about six million dollars before the year is over; state, municipal, and corporate needs are high; and there has not been the usual seasonal loan decline.

In view of this boom demand for dollars, money is bound to be tighter in a free market; and the fact that interest rates have worked up means that a more stable America is in the making. High interest rates are an antidote for excessive dollar demand and are healthy in correcting overexpansion.

We can't expect some of our citizens to understand the justification for higher interest rates unless they are told the reasons. We don't need more tinkering—it's less tinkering we need. Bankers should explain to their customers the role of interest rates in a free, competitive economy. Support must be given to men in government who are trying to map "sound dollar" policies.

GOVERNMENT EXPENSES AND TAXES

Five — Government expenditures and taxes and what you can do about them. We have some unusually able and high-principled men in government. They have just told us that reductions in expenditures have not yet reached a point where the budget can be balanced and emergency taxes allowed to expire. That information coming from men who have the facts and who are making an intelligent study of the problem is thoroughly disappointing to a people who are expecting relief from exorbitant taxation.

This can be said to the administration: People have deliberately declared themselves in favor of a sound,

honest leadership; and this high public regard must be jealously guarded through frankness and cold facts. Information and utterances made to the citizens must always be clearly stated and logically based. Plain speaking will clear up a lot of confusion and doubt.

This can be said to the people: An administration is subject to terrific pressure for more and more expenditures. The only possible way to neutralize these specific pressures is for the voters over the country to build a sustained demand for economy. The determination of leaders in government to cut expenditures must be stimulated constantly and reinforced through the unrelentless demands of the people.

A second and equally important consideration for the people is that they and their pressure groups abstain from making financial requests from government while such dogged efforts are being made to prune expenditures and reduce taxes. People realize that they cannot be prosperous with oppressix taxatation and a rotting dollar which steals a part of their wages and savings.

To achieve our goal of reduced taxation, leadership must be supported by a crusade of the people for reduced expenditures. If we continue with public support, a reduction in taxes will be achieved.

POLITICO-ECONOMISTS AS POLICY MAKERS

I have mentioned just a few of the fundamental issues which affect every one. Most of our people are in a receptive mood and realize that they must understand more about these issues if they are to guide intelligently the course of a free enterprise republic.

In this country, two distinct groups of people have been forming. One group, with scientific, inventive, and productive genius, has developed the most amazingly prosperous nation ever known. This group has been responsible for the development of new frontiers in America.

Another huge group has been developing. They are the politico-econmists who assume the responsibil-

ity for policy-making. They manipulate, control, and disburse the vast income and taxes derived from the productive genius of the first group.

Within this group of politico-economists, there are two distinct philosophies. One philosophy advocates that values should be kept on a gradual but perpetually rising plane by administrative controls and mild inflationary measures. The other philosophy advocates free, competitive market, and individual decisions with a minimum of governmental control, and a sound dollar kept stable by the effect of supply and demand.

Our government has just changed hands from the proponents of the inflationary technique to those favoring a sound, stable dollar. I know which philosophy you would choose, but I am concerned about the choice the man on the street will make. I am not one who believes that people have turned against Santa Claus, and they won't, unless they are convinced that there just "ain't no Santa Claus."

As long as the "sound money" men can function in government and maintain public confidence, I firmly believe that the people of this country will have unlimited opportunities to develop and prosper.

We Americans are justifiably proud of our glorious country. We cherish, among many other things, our high standards of living and our traditional freedom. There is, however, a general restiveness and a growing concern among our citizens that high cost of government, war, controls, and oppressive taxation are taking too great a toll of our resources and incentive. Unless these conditions are changed, a young man cannot build an estate and provide for his old age as our fathers did, for too large a part of his profits and savings will be consumed by taxes. In many instances, he can look forward to becoming a ward of the government. What a pity that our young people, after all our talk of incentive and freedom, may come to this. No wonder people are worried. There are things to be worried about.

CITIZENS MUST WORK HARD

There was never a more logical time than now for our people—all of our people, in all walks of life—to reappraise the situation and awaken to what is responsible for this state of affairs in our economic outlook.

The strength or weakness of an organization or a government starts from the top and then filters on down. We should implore Divine Providence to give our new leaders the strength and wisdom to direct our government along the right path. Believing in the old adage, "The Lord helps those who help themselves," I want to say that all of us, as American citizens, must work—work hard and long—to keep those new leaders on the right course.

We have leaders in government and high places who say that the public is to be given frank information; but we, as citizens, must assume our responsibilities for knowing what to do with the information when we get it. We have leaders all over our nation in every city, village and rural area. These civic leaders must do everything within their power to bring honest, unbiased information to the people of their communities.

Many industries are forming groups, or classes, to study our economic system, money, jobs, profits, supply and demand, the ethics of capitalism, etc. This method of education by industry is developing into a nationwide movement.

Yes, we have come a long way along the road to freedom and private enterprise since the Greeks during their Golden Age became concerned with improving the general welfare of man. We must not allow these gains to be dissipated. The American people are anxious and are asking what is happening to our economy and what we can do about it. We need men in every community who can answer those questions. What a challenge this is, and what an opportunity for bankers. Where else can people go for financial and economic information if not to their bankers?

My First Christmas in Iowa

By ISAAC BRANDT¹

In 1858, Christmas occurred on Saturday. As it was my first Christmas in Iowa, some events of the day and notes regarding the Des Moines of that day and its citizens are worth recording.

Des Moines had a population then of about 3,000. We did not have 'possum suppers, for there were only twelve colored people living in Des Moines. Col. Logan at that time was busy working for his old master down in Missouri.

Des Moines had two postoffices, both striving to be the main office. Wesley Redhead was postmaster on the west side and Dr. Alexander Shaw on the east side. They were both appointed by President Buchanan and both stalwart Democrats, but their love for each other was little like that which exists between the *Daily Capital* and *Daily News*. We had two daily mails, one from the east and one from the west carried by the Great Western Stage Company, with Col. E. F. Hooker as general manager, and Joe Boggs driver from Des Moines to Mitchellville and from there back to Des Moines. When old Joe rounded in on Capitol Hill with four bright bays in a jolly trot, champing their bits and Joe tooting his bugle, the squirrels hunted the tallest trees and the young Americans tried to beat the stage to the postoffice. We thought it was a great improvement over the lonely postman that carried the

¹ Written in 1897 by Isaac Brandt, a man of ability, who long was prominent in Des Moines political and social circles; served as deputy state treasurer 1867-73, as state representative in the Fifteenth General assembly from Polk county 1873-4, a member of the city council in 1877 and mayor protem and postmaster of Des Moines 1890-94; a personal friend of John Brown who often stopped at the Brandt home in Des Moines which was one of the stations on the "underground railroad;" solicited, collected and paid into the treasury of the Iowa State Fair society more than fifty thousand dollars in providing grounds for the permanent location of the fair at the state capital; active in the Iowa Pioneer lawmakers association and served as its president.

mail on horseback when Dr. T. K. Brooks and P. M. Casady were our postmasters.

Our mayor was H. E. Lamereaux, a solid young Democrat. The town had fourteen Republicans. We had one marshal and one policeman, both sound money Democrats. There was no trouble at that time over annual appropriations; every officer did something else for a living. They were all members of the board of public works and did their own work.

Des Moines had three weekly newspapers— the *Journal* (Democrat), edited and published by Will Porter; the *Statesman* (Democrat), edited and published by Will Tomlinson, and the *Citizen* (Republican), edited by John Teesdale, with J. M. Dixon as associate editor. They were all three able and strong papers and wielded a great influence in having the state capital located at Des Moines. The members of the first legislature that met in Des Moines in January, 1858, were written up in good style, which was highly appreciated.

We had but one college building then and it was not finished. It stood a little west of Major Hoyt Sherman's residence on Fifteenth street. There was one public school building, a two story brick, corner of West Seventh and Locust streets.

We had several churches, but only one of each denomination, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Catholic, Congregational and Christian. The ministerial association was composed of very able men, kind, loving and honorable. They preached more for the love they had for humanity than for their salaries. Prominent among them were Thompson Bird, E. W. Peet, G. B. Joyclin, J. A. Nash, J. H. Young, J. F. Brazil, E. M. H. Fleming, Wm. Remsburg, Ezra Rathburn and N. Summerbell. All have been called to their great reward. We did not have any \$5,000 or \$10,000 organs, or in fact any other priced organ, in our churches, or a well paid choir to do our singing. The minister and the whole congre-

gation would join in singing the songs of praise with a zeal and unction that came from the soul.

The Des Moines medical board was regarded as a very able one, Henry C. Courtney was president of the state medical board, and among the resident physicians were H. L. Whitman, H. C. Grimmell, W. H. Famer, J. D. Skinner, Alex Shaw, W. H. Ward, C. H. Rawson, H. H. Saylor, W. P. Davis, A. Y. Hull, T. K. Brooks, Dennis Tisdale and Tilton Elkins. They gave Des Moines such a good healthy start that it is considered one of the healthiest cities in the state.

Among our leading attorneys were M. M. Crocker, P. M. Casady, J. S. Polk, Thomas F. Withrow, C. C. Cole, John A. Kasson, Daniel O. Finch, S. V. White, John H. Gray, W. W. Williamson, William Phillips, Curtis Bates, Barlow Granger, M. D. McHenry, Wm. H. McHenry, J. M. Elwood, Byron Rice, J. E. Jenett, John Mitchell, Harvey Phillips, Thomas Cavanaugh, T. E. Brown, and several young attorneys, F. M. Hubbell, G. L. Godfrey, Seward Smith, C. C. Nourse and H. Y. Smith.

The mercantile trade in its various branches was taken care of by W. W. Moore, R. W. Sypher, John Tierman, Harry Stevenson, C. P. Luse, Geo. M. Hippee, Wm. Baker, F. M. Mills, E. Sanford, Stacy Johns, Charles Corning, John McWilliams, Wesley Redhead, J. H. Hatch, A. Z. Rawson, Louis Harbach, Chris Harbach, Joseph Kuhn, Isaac Kuhn, Isaac Brandt, A. E. Garrison, B. F. Little, Laird Bros., Strauss & Simon, J. W. & J. A. Dunkle, W. F. Burkett, J. M. Moody, Newton & Keene, Beekman & Poindexter, Carter, Hussey & Curl, Gailbraith & Latshan, Childs & Howell, John H. Given, Geo. W. Cleveland and Charles Good.

Among our builders and contractors were Conrad Youngerman, S. A. Robertson, Charles Weitz, John Woods, H. N. Woods, Charles Nichols, James Garrity, John Bryan, John Hyde, U. B. White, M. P. Turner, Levi J. Wells, A. J. Gill and Mathew Sleninger.

Our bankers were few: Callanan & Ingram, Seare &

Harsh, A. G. Stevens, Hoyt Sherman, F. R. West and B. F. Allen seemed to lead them all.

Our lumbermen were J. K. and W. H. Gilcrest and Michael Drady's, Lovejoy's lumber yard, and Scribner's and White's saw mills. Our justices of the peace were Benjamin Bryant and E. M. Bolton.

The year 1858 was a very wet one. In May it rained by day and it rained all night. Our rivers were very high, so high that steamboats made almost daily arrivals. I will quote from Will Porter's weekly *Journal* of May 8, 1858:

"Arrivals of steamboats at the port of Des Moines:

"Sunday, May 2, steamer Clara Hine.

"Monday, May 3, steamer Defiance.

"Wednesday, May 5, steamer Alice.

"Thursday, May 6, steamer Ed. Morgan.

"Friday, May 7, steamer Ed. Manning.

"Several other steamboats are on their way up the river. The river is in good boating stage and will probably remain so for some time."

In the same paper appeared the following notice on Christmas day, December 25, 1858. It is proper to state that the old Savery house, now the Kirkwood house, was not opened as a hotel until a few years later; church meetings were frequently held in what is now the dining room:

Christmas services will be held in the Savery hall Christmas afternoon at 4 o'clock. Elder Summerbell will officiate.

Savery hall is open for religious services every Lord's day at the usual hours. Preaching at 11 a.m. and Sunday evening lectures at 6:30. The public is respectfully invited to attend.

(s) N. SUMMERBELL, PASTOR

As that dining room was the nucleus or starting point of the Christian church, Brother Breeden should give some of his Jerusalem lectures in it to remind us of the days in which Brother Summerbell told us of what happened in the holy land.

Thirty-nine years have made a great many changes in Des Moines. It now has some sixty or more papers, journals, periodicals and magazines of various kinds,

published within its borders. But Christmas comes just the same as it did years ago.

Christmas day, 1858, was not cold; it rained a little and snowed some. The sun tried to shine both in the forenoon and in the afternoon, but did not make a success of it. All our postoffices, stores and banks were open all day. We all did a good business.

I ate my first Christmas turkey in Iowa with my wife and children. In the evening I went to a Good Templar lodge and heard some good temperance speeches made by Colonel T. A. Walker, Rev. William Remsbury and Levi J. Wells. So ended my first Christmas in Iowa.

Iowans in Portraiture

Iowa has one of the finest portrait collections extant of pioneer officials of the state and the state makers of its first century. There are over 200 fine oil paintings of an aggregate estimated value of from a quarter to a half million dollars.

The two art rooms set apart fifty years ago in the State Historical building at Des Moines are crowded to overflowing, and many of the portraits, of necessity, are almost out of sight. Eminent artists say that this Iowa gallery has only a few equals among all the states, and certainly it is far superior to any other in the midland states. All the early governors are represented and very many of the legislators, state officials, journalists, and leaders in many professions.

In recent years all the additions have been donations; many of the paintings cost from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each, and one is said to have cost \$15,000.

The State Department of History and Archives has just printed a complete catalogue of the portraits, and also of the busts in marble and bronze. It is given to all who wish to know more about these Iowa state makers of the first century.

A study of the state portrait gallery would surprise many Iowa people as to the number of Iowans who have achieved greatly in all fields.

Log Cabin Remnant of Iowa History

By DWIGHT B. HICKS

One of the last remnants of that era in American history when pioneers carved their homes out of the wilderness can be found today on the outskirts of Nora Springs, Floyd county, Iowa. It is the two-story log cabin built 100 years ago this October 21, by Edson Gaylord, on the southeast fringe of what now is called Nora Springs.

The story all began back in 1853, when Edson followed Horace Greeley's famous remark, "Go west young man, go west!" He and his five brothers held a family council in their Northville, Conn., home. Edson Gaylord was selected to go west to find a section of country where the family could settle. The brothers then would join him later.

Edson traveled through to Rock Grove township in Floyd county, Iowa, and into a number of neighboring states. He was convinced by that time that Rock Grove was the "most lovely spot and possessed more natural advantages than any other" he had seen in all his rambling.

He then returned and built the two-story log cabin which still exists today. Although the 18- by 24-foot cabin is not in as good condition as it was 100 years ago, its stone chimney and fireplace still remain stable and intact.

The wood frame of the building now leans toward the north, but still is standing on the property now owned by Miss Vienna Gaylord, the third child of Edson Gaylord. She was born in that log cabin in 1871. When the cabin was built in 1853, not one nail was used in its construction. The roof originally was made made of split stakes held in place by heavy poles. The logs were cut with a sledge hammer and a wedge.

The once warm and comfortable home for Floyd county's first pioneer family now is more or less neglected. It is engulfed by bushes, brambles and trees, and during the summer months is almost hidden to the naked eye.

The log cabin may be found, when approaching from east of Nora Springs, by turning left at the first road, following its winding path across the railroad tracks, and turning right into the first driveway. The cabin then sets on the left of the drive opposite the Gaylord brick home.

The Gaylord family lived in the log cabin from 1854 to 1874, when Edson decided to build a magnificent home of brick, which today is still a show piece. Over 100,000 bricks and 500 bushels of lime were used to build the building on the Gaylord property, which was named Gaylord Glade soon after it was settled.

Mr. Gaylord, not only was a pioneer in developing the Nora Springs area, but also had many firsts to his credit. He built the first school house in Floyd county, getting up in the middle of the night to cut the first tree. The stump to that first tree has been kept by Miss Gaylord at the home of a niece with whom she now lives in Nora Springs. The log cabin school house was built in 1854, east of the Gaylord log cabin near a section where buffalo were plentiful. It burned after the first year and had to be rebuilt 80 rods to the west of the initial school, which now would be within the city limits of Nora Springs.

Mr. Gaylord also cut out and made the first pioneer road through Rock Grove township. He also burned the first lime in a regular kiln. In his trade, he made and supplied the countryside with lime and brick for many years. The Floyd county pioneer also was an authority on fruit trees. He wrote many valuable papers on the apple tree and its problems and set up the first apple orchard in the county.

The Gaylords were one of three pioneer families which planted and surveyed Nora Springs. Edson

bought most of the land where Nora Springs now stands from the government and deeded it to the community.

For years, people there thought the name "Nora Springs" originated as a compliment to the girl friend of one of the surveyors. Through the years Edson kept the secret of how it was named. But it finally came out. A friend of his was interested in buying a mill and settling there. He wanted to name the town Eleanora Springs after his fiancée in the East, but Edson and the friend compromised on the name Nora Springs.

After this came about, it was discovered the friend's bride-to-be had rejected his hand in marriage, so the man changed his mind about settling there. But the name Nora Springs stuck.

One story in connection with the naming of the town was brought to light by a newspaper story believed first printed about 1933. It told of a minister and his wife leaving the train at Nora Springs when they heard an elderly woman saying, "I have always lived in the East and since my youth I have wanted to see this place. It was named for me, but I cannot stop." It was assumed this was the bride-to-be who rejected Edson's friend's offer of marriage.

The log cabin and the Gaylord family's persistence against all odds, in an Iowa once a wilderness, are a great part of American history. But it must not be forgotten and neglected as the months turn into years and the years into centuries. Something should be done about keeping Floyd county's last log cabin from rotting and decaying into dust of the countryside.

Midwest Old Settlers Meet

A four-day annual meeting of the Midwest Old Settlers and Threshers association assembled at Mount Pleasant Wednesday, September 16. Ray Ernst, of near Mount Pleasant was the president and had charge of the meeting, which attracted many persons from surrounding states.

Iowa People and Events . . .

Grant Sought Iowa's Wilson

An Iowa statesman who became an important figure in national American life was Sen. James F. Wilson of Fairfield. He first served as a member of the Iowa constitutional convention of 1856, then in the Iowa House of Representatives in the Seventh General Assembly in 1857, in the Iowa senate in 1859-61 and its president in 1861. He was a delegate from Iowa to the Democratic national convention at Baltimore in 1860, and when Samuel R. Curtis resigned his seat in congress to enter the army, Wilson was elected as a Democrat to fill the vacancy thus created in the Thirty-seventh congress; re-elected as a Republican and served until 1869.

In 1862, Iowa's increased population entitled it to six representatives instead of two. The eight men then to serve as its delegation in congress and remain during the period of the war and longer, has always been regarded as one of its ablest, consisting of James W. Grimes and James Harlan, senators, and James F. Wilson, from the First district, Hiram Price from the Second, William B. Allison from the Third, J. B. Grinnell from the Fourth, John A. Kasson from the Fifth, and A. W. Hubbard from the Sixth. Wilson served as one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1868 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against President Andrew Johnson.

In the make-up of his cabinet President Grant appointed Repr. Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois, Secretary of State. In a revealing sketch regarding this action, Leigh Leslie quoted Grant as saying afterward in regard to the premiership:

My first choice for the State department was James F. Wilson, of Iowa. I appointed Mr. Washburne under peculiar circumstances. Mr. Washburne knew he was going to

France and wanted to go. I called on him one day when he was ill. I found him in a desponding mood. He said that before going to a country like France he would like to have the prestige of a cabinet office; that it would help his mission very much. He suggested the Treasury. I had already spoken to Mr. Stewart on the subject, and said I would make him, Washburne, Secretary of State. So came the appointment.

It has been stoutly denied that Grant offered Wilson a position in the cabinet. The following letter which was written by Grant's own hand, will serve to forever settle the question:

Washington, D. C., April 9, 1869

Hon. James F. Wilson:

Dear Sir,—It is but an act of simple justice to you that I should state that I have seen, with pain, for the last few days, studied and persistent attacks upon you for a vote which it seems you gave, as a member of the judiciary committee in the last congress, upon the McGarrahan claim. I was not aware that you gave such a vote until I saw these attacks, and now have no knowledge or opinion upon the merits of the claim. My opinion of you, however, is such that I do not doubt but you cast your vote conscientiously, and according to testimony advanced before the committee. The gossip, therefore, which says "that a distinguished member lost a seat in the cabinet, and a place in the confidence of his friends, through his connection with the case," is untrue. If it alludes to you, and it clearly does, it is refuted by the fact that I tendered you a place in my cabinet, and very much regretted that you felt constrained not to accept, for reasons entirely personal to yourself, and having no connection with any official act of yours.

With assurance that I still entertain the same high opinion of you that I did when tendering you a cabinet appointment, I remain, very truly,

Your obedient servant,

(s) U. S. GRANT

It was distinctly understood when Washburne was appointed Secretary of State that he was to resign within a few months and go as Minister to France, and that Wilson was to succeed him as premier. Wilson meantime was tendered another place in the cabinet, but he declined it. Once ensconced in the State Department, Washburne set diligently about the task of

dispensing the patronage of the office, and so well did he accomplish his purpose that, when he resigned, all the offices at his disposal had been given to his own friends. Naturally enough Wilson was indignant at the turn affairs had taken, and, without regaling the public with an exploitation of the reasons that impelled him to do so, he dignifiedly declined the highest place in the president's council. He could see no other course open to him consistent with dignity and self-respect. He cherished, however, no resentment toward Grant. The latter had no better friend than he proved to be.

The vicious spoils system nearly wrecked Grant's first administration. The successful soldier made a poor politician; he did not understand the arts of self-seekers and demagogues, and he was, therefore, easily imposed upon. To the unscrupulous place-hunters by whom he unsuspectingly surrounded himself were due the scandals that came so near destroying him. In the bitterness and the blindness of party rancor he was assailed most mercilessly for the acts of his betrayers. Washburne was unquestionably able but inordinately ambitious. As Minister to France he performed distinguished services.

Subsequently, President Grant appointed Wilson as the Government director of the Union Pacific Railroad, in which position he served eight years; then on January 10, 1882, was elected as a Republican to the United State senate, and re-elected in 1889, serving until March 3, 1895, being an unsuccessful candidate for re-election that year, and died April 22, 1895.

Joined in Abuse of Lincoln

Comment is noted often of the "Copperhead" tendencies of Iowa's first two United States senators—George W. Jones and Augustus C. Dodge, whose first service in that capacity dated from 1848, but fortunately were succeeded in the fifties by James Harlan and James W. Grimes. During the Civil war a large

contingent, some high in official and military station, most severely criticized President Lincoln. Among these was former Col. Wm. H. Merritt, editor of the *Daily Iowa Statesman*, Des Moines, as evidenced by the following editorial appearing in that paper July 11, 1863:

"It is said that previous to the arrest of Vallandigham, when the expediency of his arrest was being discussed in the cabinet, Chase opposed the arrest of Vallandigham, or any prominent man from the state of Ohio, and asked Seward, 'why, if arbitrary arrests were to be made, they were not made in his own state of New York, where it was notorious that journals and politicians were more bitter and denunciatory of the war and the administration than they were at the West.'

"The administration and its friends have had much tribulation for fear its war policy would be brought into disrepute. In the present contest, no power on earth, except the disreputable policy which the president has seen fit to pursue, could bring either his own person or administrative acts into contempt. It is his own inconsistency and folly which have made him the butt of friends and foes alike. To be consistent, the president should not only arrest all Democrats, in every state, who discuss his policy, but he should also arrest the members of his own party who give sign of turbulence. The president has been kicked, cuffed, browbeaten and insulted, more by Wendell Phillips, Wilson, Wade, Chandler, and others of his own party, than any other class of men in the country. Phillips, from the inauguration of the president to the present time, has made no speech without pouring billingsgate or ridicule upon his head."

Less Hired Help on Iowa Farms

Hired farm labor seems to be gradually disappearing from the Iowa farm picture. While more farmers are hiring help than they were 10 years ago, they are

hiring less labor for shorter periods. This is shown in a cooperative study of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA.

Iowa farmers apparently are getting along with less hired labor through constantly increasing mechanization, newer and more efficient farming methods—and because opportunities for urban employment are taking the workers.

Ray E. Wakeley and Paul J. Jehlik of Iowa State College and USDA say that Iowa farmers appear to be approaching a level of self-sufficiency. This, with a combination of adequate mechanized equipment, available family labor and machine hire, is leading to the commercialized family-type farm.

For the hired farm worker, say the rural sociologists, this trend poses the problem of finding supplemental off-farm employment for an increasingly greater part of the year. But perhaps more important, they point out, is that if hired labor continues to disappear, it may close one of the pathways for young men to get started farming. Many farmers received their start in farming by first engaging as a hired hand.

The Iowa Capitol's Architecture

The State Capitol has much to commend it to the people of Iowa. It stands upon a commanding site, from which its golden dome can be seen for many miles. No Iowan who has a clean heart and wholesome state pride can catch a glimpse of that dome, when approaching the capitol city, without a thrill of pleasure. That first glimpse comes with no other part of the city in sight, with a background of moving clouds or clear sky, when its connection with the earth is out of view, and when its form and beauty are alone sufficient to touch our emotions.

One is disposed to linger upon the value of distant views of this central dome, because it is really the best

part of the whole building from the artistic standpoint. Even the four little domes stiffly disposed about it are not able to greatly diminish its importance. The capitol, like most of the public buildings of the country, is designed upon classic lines. Its style is a tribute to the architectural instincts of ancient Greece, to the achievements of Rome, to the Renaissance and to modern needs. There are to be seen columns and pediments of the Grecian type, the dome of the Roman and the provisions for suitable lighting, which the use of the building for offices makes necessary.

The influence of that old civilization on the shores of the Mediterranean is not more marked in any department of life than in the form it has given to the work of architecture in all quarters of the globe. It is not a little remarkable that after so many centuries the people of another hemisphere should go back to it for the ruling idea displayed in their buildings.

The Iowa capitol is a very fair representative of the state for which it stands. Large enough to command respect, built of good and honest material, adapted to the uses for which it was designed, it is a monument of which the people of the state are justly proud. They are warranted in a proper pride in the history of its construction, for it was paid for when the stones were laid, without the contracting of debt and without its fair walls being tainted by any suspicion of extravagance or corruption. Its interior does not shame its outward seeming. The rotunda and liberal halls are appropriate to its character as a public building. Its display of marbles from distant lands is interesting, and its ample offices, with well chosen mural decorations, afford a suitable home for departments of the state government.—Ernest Edward Clark, in *Midland Monthly*, August, 1898.

Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

MARY LOUISE TINLEY, teacher and physician, died at Council Bluffs, Iowa, July 24, 1953; born in that city in 1869; daughter of Matthew Hugh and Rose (Dolan) Tinley, who immigrated to the United States from Ireland and located in Council Bluffs the year of her birth, and a sister of Dr. (Col.) Matthew A. Tinley, distinguished in World War I in France, Judge John P. Tinley and Emmett Tinley, attorney; and a sister, Miss Aurelia R. Tinley; was graduated in 1887 from Council Bluffs high school completing course in three years; taught school five years in that city and entered the University of Omaha medical department, graduating in 1894 at the head of a class of 21 men and three women, her college grade average of 98.75 percent winning her a set of surgical instruments; took graduate medical work in New York and Boston and returned to her home city in September 1895 and opened her first office, devoting her entire life to her profession; served as district surgeon for the Union Pacific railroad for 23 years and also physician for the Wabash railroad for many years; was physical examiner for baby clinics throughout the county for over 30 years and likewise physical director for the 4-H girls; a lifelong Democrat and active in many organizations and a member of the Catholic church; a member of the Council Bluffs medical society, former treasurer of the women's division of the Iowa State Medical association, as well as a member of the Pottawattamie County Medical association, the National Women's Medical association and a fellow of the American Medical association; only recently sold the old Tinley home and built a new home in Council Bluffs in which she and her sister resided; survived only by her sister, Miss Aurelia and brother, Dr. Matt Tinley.

GEORGE ROCKWELL PUTNAM, scientist, engineer and coast surveyer, died at Washington, D. C., July 1, 1953; born at Davenport, Iowa, May 24, 1865; son of Davenport pioneers, Charles E. and Mary L. (Duncan) Putnam, daughter of Gen. Joseph Duncan, an early governor of Illinois, and a brother of Edward Kirby Putnam; attended high school in Davenport; received his bachelor of science degree in 1890, his master of science degree in 1895 and his doctor of engineering degree in 1933, all from Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute, Indi-

ana, his doctor of science degree from Steven Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey in 1922; began career in the field of service of the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1890, made boundary surveys of Mexico and Alaska; was in Alaska four years and in 1896 went to Greenland with a scientific expedition; surveyed the Pribilof Islands in the North Pacific and the Yukon river delta in 1898 and 1899; between 1900 and 1906 organized and directed coast surveys of the Philippines; in 1903 wrote the first of five articles for *National Geographic Magazine* on the Philippine survey, as well as articles on navigation and lighthouses; made commissioner of lighthouses in 1910 and reorganized the lighthouse service; was a delegate to the International Lighthouse Conference in 1929 in London, and retired in 1935.

One of Dr. Putnam's greatest interests was in promoting aid to better navigation, including preparation of a plan under which charts of all United States' coasts were revised, and frequently pleaded for reports on new coastal data, explaining that "old charts are worse than none;" wrote the books, "Nautical Charts," "Lighthouses and Lightships of the United States," "Radio Fog Signals and the Radiocompass" and "Sentinels of the Coasts," as well as technical papers for the *Washington Academy of Sciences Journal* and other scientific publications; in 1895 made a series of gravity measurements, results of which furnished additional confirmation of the isotatic condition of the earth's crust; was president of the Cosmos Club in 1920 and the Washington Society of Engineers in 1915; also a member of the Chevy Chase club, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Washington Academy of Sciences; survivors, the widow, Marta A., and two daughters, Mrs. C. L. Barber, Amherst, Mass., and Mrs. John Hay, Brewster, Mass.

ANNAS M. HENDERSON, farmer, merchant, banker, died at Northfield, Minnesota, April 23, 1953; born in Scott township, Hamilton county, Iowa, two miles north of Story City, May 19, 1869, son of Lars and Sara Henderson, who had removed to Iowa in 1858 from Lisbon, Illinois, making the trek in ox-and horse-drawn covered wagons, the town of Randall being later located on the west end of the Henderson farm, and in their home the village postoffice being established April 15, 1863, the father serving as postmaster until the early eighties; attended rural school until needed for his labor upon the farm, and later, as he often remarked, "for my postgraduate work, turned to The School of Experience;" bap-

tized in St. Petri church July 3, 1869, and continued a member of the congregation for 74 years prior to moving to Northfield, Minnesota, seven years ago to reside with a daughter, Mildred, with whom he lived at time of his death; married to Julia T. Hegland, of Roland, Iowa, January 1, 1891, who passed away October 28, 1936, a daughter and two boys born to their wedlock, Floyd, who died at the age of nine, and Luther who survives at Story City; engaged in farming, and later acquired an interest in a hardware and implement business at Fairview, then a business settlement one mile east of the present business section of Story City; became a traveling salesman for a Waterloo firm; then was appointed postmaster at Story City, and during incumbency served two terms as president of the Iowa Postmaster's League; became cashier of the First National bank at Story City; also one of the organizers and first president of the First National Loan association; in 1922 became president of the Iowa Banker's association and served a three-year term on the council of administration of the American Bankers convention; upon removal to Northfield engaged in writing the history of "My Years in Story County," which was published in the April, 1951 number of the ANNALS and was widely circulated among his friends; survived besides his children by two sisters and one brother.

HARRY WINFIELD CAVE, college professor and dairy husbandman, died at Stillwater, Oklahoma, June 23, 1953; born at Fayette, Iowa, April 30, 1890; son of Benjamin Austin and Serena Arvilla (Cowles) Cave; attended high school at Ames, Iowa; received his B.S.A. degree at Iowa State College, Ames, 1914, his M.S. from Kansas State College in 1916; also attended West Virginia University; married Anita Lucille Meltzer December 25, 1917, who survives him with two sons, Douglas Austin and Robert Harry, and a daughter, Elizabeth Ann (Mrs. Walter S. Bryde); employed as fieldman by the Golden Valley Dairy Co. at Kansas City, Mo., 1916; served as assistant professor of dairy extension at West Virginia university 1916-18, assistant professor dairy husbandry at Kansas State college 1918-20, associate professor 1920-26 and professor 1926-39, professor of dairying and head of department of dairying at Oklahoma A. and M. college 1939-50, and professor emeritus of dairying since 1950; named as research fellow at Kansas State college 1914-16 and honorary fellow at the University of Wisconsin 1930-31; was coach of four intercollegiate dairy cattle judging teams winning national championships; served as

official type classification judge of American Jersey Cattle club since 1942, official judge Holstein-Friesian Association of America, and judge of many regional and state dairy cattle shows; a fellow of A.A.A.S., member of American Dairy Science association (president 1940-41), American Dairy association (member executive committee), Oklahoma Holstein Breeders association (vice-president), Oklahoma Jersey Cattle club (sec.), Stillwater chamber of commerce, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta, Phi Sigma, Sigma Phi Epsilon, a Republican, Mason and Presbyterian; an author and contributor of articles to scientific bulletins and journals.

JOHN S. HEFFNER, banker, educator and legislator, died at his farm home near Blairsburg, Iowa, August 7, 1953; born in Webster county, Iowa, in 1884, eldest son of the late Dr. Samuel Heffner, who came to Iowa in 1855; received his early education in the rural schools; attended Tobin College, at Fort Dodge, Iowa, and was graduated in the class of 1900; later attended classes at the University of Iowa; engaged in banking twelve years with the State Bank of Williams, Duncombe Savings Bank and First National Bank of Fort Dodge; taught school and served on the Hamilton county board of education, also on the Blairsburg consolidated school board eight years, the last four of which as its president; served in five sessions of the Iowa General Assembly as representative from Hamilton county, and as president of the Iowa Tax-payers association; married to Iva Mae Bartlett of Hamilton county, who survives him with four daughters, Mrs. Phillip Spencer of Essex, Iowa, Mrs. Charles Miller of Madison, Minn., Mrs. Will Carthy of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Miss Beth Heffner of Des Moines, three brothers and a sister.

JAMES T. NICHOLS, minister, author and world traveler, died at Des Moines, Iowa, July 24, 1953; born on a farm in Washington county, Iowa, November 18, 1865; had a boyhood ambition to become a preacher, but was 26 years old before he had an opportunity of attending high school; later entered Oskaloosa college of the Christian church, combining studying and supporting a family; was graduated and entered a pastorate at Vinton, Iowa, from which he came to Des Moines about the turn of the century as editor of the *Christian Union*, the state paper of the Disciples of Christ, during which service preached on Sundays at Christian churches in Mitchellville, Woodward and many other Iowa communities; became a member of the University Christian church

in Des Moines in 1905, continuing among its leaders since with the exception of the years he served as pastor of the new College Avenue Christian church, beginning January 1, 1925, leading it in the erection of the building, completed and paid for that year; became a world traveler, making extensive trips to various countries in Europe, crossing the Atlantic ocean 32 times, and made five trips around the world, the last at the age of 71; became celebrated as a lecturer and author of articles of religious and historical nature; was a 33rd degree Mason, and a member of Adelpic lodge and the Des Moines consistory of that order, also a member of the Kiwanis club of Des Moines for 20 years; a teacher of the large Loyal Married Folks class of University church for many years and an honorary member of its board of elders; survived by three daughters, Florence Nichols and Mrs. Edna Goss, both of Des Moines, and Iva Nichols of New York, N. Y., a son, Clark Nichols of Buffalo, N. Y., two grandsons and six great-grandchildren.

JAMES MONROE BELL, insurance and bond broker, public official and legislator, died at Burlington, Iowa, August 3, 1953; born in New Boston, Illinois, March 28, 1876, the son of Omer H. and Vashti Willets Bell; came to Burlington as a boy and spent most of his life there; employed for a time by Marshall Field & Co., Chicago; also traveled out of New York for the Borden Milk Company as a salesman and supervisor of branch establishments; beginning in 1901, served as deputy county auditor of Des Moines county, Iowa, and twice elected as Mayor of Burlington from 1916 to 1920; served as state senator one term from 1934 to 1938; engaged in the insurance and bond brokerage lines in Burlington for many years, and was a Democrat candidate for various official positions, usually unsuccessful excepting when he ran for mayor and for state senator; married Mrs. Julia Leake Steinbrecher in 1925, who survives as also do two married daughters by a previous marriage, Mary and Betty of Los Angeles, a stepson Richard E. Steinbrecher of Chicago and three grandchildren; formerly a member of the Iowa National Guard and served in Company H.; a Methodist, and held membership in the Eagles, Elks, Odd Fellows, Rebeccas and A.O.U.W.

STEPHEN RAY EMERSON, building contractor and legislator, died at Creston, Iowa, August 1, 1953; born in Union county, Iowa, February 25, 1889, son of Lincoln Jasper and Verna Shaw Emeson; and grandson of the Rev. Stephen and Mary

Peek Emerson of Union county; graduated from Creston high school in 1908 and from Central college at Pella in 1910; married Meta F. Raney, Marengo, at Fairfield, Iowa, October 13, 1913, who survives him with three daughters, Mrs. Gail Brown, Mrs. Joseph G. Knock and Mrs. Jane James, all of Creston; engaged in building contracting for 27 years with his brother, Donald Emerson, at Creston; was president of the State Savings bank of Creston a number of years and chairman of its board of directors at the time of his death; served in two sessions of the Iowa senate from the Fifth senatorial district, two years as president of the Master Builders association of Iowa, two terms as a member of the Iowa highway commission, two terms on the Creston school board, eight years as the mayor of Creston and as a delegate from Iowa to the national Republican convention at Cleveland in 1916; a member of the Congregational church, the Rotary club, the Elks and Masonic order.

JOHN J. BOYLAN, bishop of Rockford See and educator, died July 20, 1953, at his summer home at Bonnet Shores, Narragansett, Rhode Island, where he was recuperating from an operation; born in New York, N. Y., October 7, 1889, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Boylan; attended La Salle Academy, Providence, Mount St. Mary's College in Emmittsburg, Md., and St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.; ordained in Providence in 1915; attended the Catholic University of America in Washington, from which he was graduated as a Bachelor of Sacred Theology in 1917, and the Pontifical Atheneum in Rome, where he obtained his Doctorate in Philosophy in 1923; also studied in the summer at Harvard University and the State University of Iowa; appointed in 1917 assistant pastor of the Church of St. Francis in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he remained but a brief period, until he joined the faculty of Dowling College at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1918, and served as its president from 1923 to 1942; also served as diocesan director of charities in Des Moines, 1920-23; as diocesan superintendent of schools, 1924-34, and as vicar general of the Des Moines diocese, 1934-42; a member of the summer faculty of the Sisters Teachers College in Providence, 1935-42; named Bishop of Rockford, Illinois, and was consecrated at Des Moines in February, 1943; surviving are two brothers and five sisters.

IOWA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVES

Claude R. Cook, Curator
Des Moines

An institution of the State of Iowa, located at the seat of government, established as a department of the State in 1892, and administered by a Curator elected by a Board of Trustees composed of the Governor of the State, a Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. It consists of the following divisions:

The Iowa Historical and Genealogical Library

The Public Archives of the State of Iowa

The State Census Records of Iowa

The War History Division—Gold Star Iowans

The Portrait Gallery of Iowa, exhibiting oil portraits of the outstanding men and women who have contributed to Iowa culture, official life and progress.

The Museum Division: Indian, geology, pioneer life, transportation, and natural history collections and exhibits

Publication: *ANNALS OF IOWA, a Magazine of History*

The Newspaper Division—Files of Iowa newspapers and periodicals from territorial days to the present

The Manuscript Collection including papers, addresses, documents and correspondence of eminent Iowans, supplying unrecorded chapters in state history

In the interest of preserving Iowa history, the Curator solicits the presentation, to the Manuscript Collection, of letters, diaries, family histories, and general manuscripts about Iowans and institutions in the area of which the state is a geographical part.

ANNALS OF IOWA

In the more than half a century the *ANNALS OF IOWA* has been published, it has been a repository for, and made available, a vast amount of valuable data on the history of the State otherwise not accessible. The securing of material, and editing and supervising its publication, is a part of the immediate task of carrying on the work of the Department in harmony with established traditions.

Bound files of the publication are preserved in countless libraries of the State, and may be consulted by those engaged in research and historical writing.

